J. Gendall del[t]

SION HOUSE.

VIEWS

OF

COUNTRY SEATS

499

OF THE

ROYAL FAMILY, NOBILITY, AND GENTRY,

OF ENGLAND,

IN

ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY-SIX COLOURED ENGRAVINGS,

AFTER ORIGINAL DESIGNS

BY W. WESTALL, J. GENDALL,

AND OTHER ARTISTS:

WITH

PARTICULARS, HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

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VIEWS

OF

COUNTRY SEATS.

SION-HOUSE,

MIDDLESEX,

THE SEAT OF THE DUKE OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

This noble mansion, an ornament to the banks of old Thames, on which it stands, is one of the magnificent seats of the Duke of Northumberland. It is situated near the village of Isleworth, about nine miles from London.

King Henry V., in the year 1414, founded in the parish of Twickenham a convent of Bridgetines, of the order of Augustines, and, in reference to the holy mount, bestowed on it the name of Sion. The establishment consisted of sixty nuns with the abbess, thirteen priests, four deacons, and eight lay brethren, to correspond with the number of the apostles and the seventy-two disciples of Christ. In 1432, by permission of King Henry VI. the order removed to an extensive edifice constructed by them on their demesne, on the site of the present stately edifice. Scarcely a vestige of the ancient monastery but the

name now remains. It was richly endowed by the founder, and valuable additions were made to it by subsequent monarchs, till the reign of Henry VIII. when it was one of the first religious houses pounced on by that rapacious king; its revenue at the time being valued at £1731 8*s.* 4½*d.* per annum. On ac count of its fine situation, the estate was retained by the crown. In this house the king confined his unfortunate queen, Katherine Howard, while preparations were making for her trial, which was from the 14th of Nov. 1541, to Feb. the 10th, in the following year, when she was removed, and three days afterwards perished at the block.

The Protector, Edward Seymour, Duke of Somerset, obtained a grant of the estate from his nephew, the youthful Edward VI. in the first year of his reign. After demolishing the convent, he commenced the present noble structure; but, notwithstanding all possible celerity used in the building, he did not live to perfect his designs, being led to the scaffold in 1552, when the property reverted to the crown. It was shortly afterwards granted to John Dudley, Duke of Northumberland, and became the residence of his son, Lord Guildford Dudley, and his wife, the unfortunate Lady Jane Grey. It was here that the misfortunes of that accomplished female commenced, for here she was prevailed on to accept the crown, and from this house she was removed to the Tower, not to mount the throne, but the scaffold, with her unfortunate husband. The bold but imprudent duke met the same fate, when the estate again became crown land, and remained so under the reign of Queen Mary, till 1557, when it was restored to the Bridgetines, who

had some difficulty in providing nuns, the former occupants being either dead or in the arms of their husbands. This order was again dissolved by Queen Elizabeth, with many others established by her bigoted sister; and, a few years afterwards, she granted Sion and the manor of Isleworth (which Mary had conferred on the Bridgetine order), to Henry Percy, ninth Earl of Northumberland.

Under this deserving but unfortunate nobleman the estate was improved and the house finished.—Great improvements were made in the edifice by his son, Algernon Percy, tenth Earl of Northumberland, who called in the assistance of Inigo Jones. It was to this nobleman that the House of Commons deputed the care of the children of the unfortunate Charles I. and to this house he conducted them August 27, 1646, treating them with parental care, and the respectful attention due to their high birth and tender age; the Duke of York being fourteen, the Princess Elizabeth twelve, and the Duke of Gloucester seven. The noble earl obtained permission from the Parliament for the king to visit his children; in consequence the unhappy monarch was allowed to break through his restraint at Hampton and dine with his family. The royal children continued happy under the care bestowed on them at Sion-House till 1649, when they were resigned to the earl's sister, the Countess of Leicester.

In 1682, Charles Duke of Somerset having married Lady Elizabeth Percy, only surviving daughter and heiress of Josceline, eleventh and last earl of Northumberland, Sion-House became his property, thus returning into the family of the former possessor.

The noble pair lent this house to the Princess of Denmark (afterwards Queen Anne), as a residence during the misunderstanding with her sister Queen Mary. Algernon Earl of Hertford, only surviving son of Charles Duke of Somerset, succeeding to the titles and estates, gave Sion-House to his daughter Elizabeth, by whose marriage to Sir Hugh Smithson, Bart. Sion-House became his property, and he, having taken the name of Percy, was created Earl and afterwards Duke of Northumberland. The present noble proprietor is the offspring of this alliance.

The first View shews the southern and eastern fronts of this quadrangular and extensive building. The east side is supported by arches, forming a handsome piazza, which ranges along this front. The building forms a hollow square. It is three stories high, embattled, and has a flat roof, with embattled turrets at the four angles. The entrances to the house from the principal fronts are by flights of stone steps, by one of which is the ascent to the Great Hall of Entrance, which is a magnificent room, sixty-six feet in length by thirty in width, and nearly thirty-three in height. The ceiling is highly wrought in stucco, and the pavement of marble: it is adorned by colossal antique marble statues, and a fine bronze cast of the Dying Gladiator is placed so as to produce a fine effect at the entrance of the Vestibule, an apartment of such peculiar richness as to command the highest admiration. The floor is of scagliola marble; the ceiling and sides are richly ornamented; and in the immense quantity of verd-antique adornments to this vestibule, it is thought to excel any thing of the kind in the world. The principal of these consist of twelve

fine Ionic columns and sixteen pilasters, all of verd-antique, rich in its variety of lovely tints ; the capitals are gilt, with twelve statues, also gilt, over the twelve columns. A table of great beauty, brought from Egypt, deserves notice. The room is nearly thirty-seven feet by thirty, and twenty-one in height.

This leads to the Dining-Room, sixty-two feet by twenty-two, a room of extreme elegance and classical effect. The ceiling is stucco gilt, and the sides painted after the antique in chiaro-scuro. In recesses are six beautiful marble statues. There are circular recesses at each end of the room, separated by Corinthian columns, which support an enriched but chaste architrave. The whole is finely contrasted, though in unison, with the Great Drawing-Room, about forty-five feet by twenty-two. The sides of this room are hung with satin, presenting a variety of beautiful warm colours and semi-tints, from the peculiar quality of its manufacture with three-coloured silk, the first of the kind wrought in England. The ceiling is coved and divided into compartments, containing admirable copies of antique paintings. Two noble Mosaic tables are formed out of beautiful pieces found in the baths of Titus: the chimney-piece, of statuary marble, is finely executed, and inlaid with or-molu. The whole is reflected in glasses of immense size, measuring one hundred and eight inches by sixty-five.

The Drawing-Room leads to the Great Gallery, which constitutes the Library : it occupies the whole of the eastern front, being one hundred and thirty-six feet by fourteen : the bookcases are well con-

trived in recesses, appearing part of the embellishments, which they certainly form; to complete which, at the end of the room, on the folding-doors opening to the garden, the bookcase is imitated, and, by a happy thought, the inventor of this deception has inscribed on the mimic volumes the titles of the lost Greek and Roman authors; thus solacing the disappointment felt at the pleasing deception by a curious catalogue of the *autores deperditi.* The ceiling is painted in compartments, and highly ornamented in stucco, which is continued over the sides, modelled from the most attractive remains of classical antiquity: these were the first embellishments in stucco executed in England. The upper divisions contain portraits of all the Earls of Northumberland in succession, and other principal personages of the houses of Percy and Seymour. They form a series of medallions, and are all from original paintings. The handsome chimney-piece is adorned to correspond with the enrichments throughout the room.

Connnected with this apartment are small pavilions, finished in the most exquisite taste. The whole of these apartments for state purposes were arranged under the direction of Messrs. Adams.

The apartments appropriated to family use are capacious and numerous, fitted up with becoming splendour, and contain many valuable pictures by Vandyke and other eminent artists. Among them are the following:

King Charles I., by Vandyke.

King Charles I. and one of his Sons: his Majesty holds a letter, directed "*Au Roi Monseigneur.*" His son (probably the Duke of Gloucester) is presenting a penknife to cut the strings. This picture

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THE PARK ENTRANCE.

Sion House.

was painted by Sir Peter Lely during the king's visit to Sion-House to see his family; the receipt for it is in the Duke of Northumberland's possession: the price charged was thirty pounds.

Queen Henrietta-Maria, by Vandyke: the queen's hand rests on roses, the flower of beauty, which are spread on a table; the crown is seen a little to the right: a beautiful picture.

Two other portraits of the king's children, *the Princess Elizabeth,* the only portrait of her extant, and *the Duke of Gloucester,* are placed, with the above portraits of the unfortunate Stuart family, with interesting propriety in the apartment where so many tender interviews took place between the king and his family.

From the flat roof of the house and turrets the views are extremely beautiful, comprehending the grounds, which are admirably laid out, and the delightful scenery from Kew to Richmond.

The second plate exhibits a view of the principal Park-Entrance from the great western road. It is an elegant structure, comprising a central arch, adorned on each side by an open colonnade, and terminated by the porters' lodges; the centre is surmounted by the lion passant, the crest of the noble house of Northumberland. The whole forms a fanciful open screen, through which the park is seen to great advantage, and has a pleasing effect: it is the work of Adams.

The Grounds possess great beauty, for which they are much indebted to Brown, but they have lately been re-arranged and much improved. Besides the noble river Thames, which washes the boundary of the demesne, a small tributary river is conducted through the grounds in serpentine forms with great effect, and is embellished with several bridges in its course, adding considerably to the beauty of the scene.

The Flower-garden is laid out with infinite taste, and enriched by a handsome column, which supports a statue of Flora. The Green-House is of ample dimensions, with a rich Gothic front; the walls are the only remains of the ancient monastery. The Kitchen-Gardens are spacious, and completely shut out from the house by rich woods. Here is a range of hot-houses upwards of four hundred feet in length, constructed entirely of metal, even to the wall-plates, the doors, and the framing of the sashes, and the whole glazed with plate-glass. In these and other improvements of the mansion, grounds, and gardens, the present noble proprietor has expended immense sums.

ST. LEONARD'S HILL,

BERKSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF EARL HARCOURT.

The very fine situation of this elegant abode must be seen to be appreciated. It stands on the brow of a commanding and finely wooded hill, in the immediate vicinity of Windsor Forest, and surrounded by an immense extent of the richest country.

The view of the House is from the Lawn, shewing in the distance Windsor Castle, which is seen to most advantage from this spot, and forms, with Eton College, a principal feature in this noble scene, which extends across the rich uplands of Buckinghamshire, and embraces Middlesex and Surrey. The house is very irregular in its construction, which is generally the result of frequent additions.

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ST. LEONARD'S HILL,

SEAT OF THE EARL OF HARCOURT.

8A

The site was formerly occupied by a gamekeeper's lodge only, but it became of sufficient importance to be fit for the occasional residence of Wm. Pitt, Earl of Chatham, who took great delight in retiring for a short time to this beautiful spot, when he was secretary at war. It came into the possession of the Countess-Dowager of Waldegrave, afterwards Duchess of Gloucester, who added so considerably to the old building as to render it truly comfortable. A colonnade extends from the conservatory in front of the breakfast-room and hall to the main building, forming a pleasing connection, enriched with columns and decorations in the Roman Doric order, which, with its treillage, the variety of plants and flowering shrubs that grace the entrance, and its irregularity of surface, produce an effect in the highest degree elegant, pleasing, and picturesque.

The pleasure-grounds are beautifully romantic, and the shrubberies tastefully laid out. The entrance to the grounds from the Windsor road is by a very pretty rustic lodge, which displays great taste in its arrangement. Its form is pleasing, and the exterior is covered in a fanciful manner with the bark of trees, while some portion is constructed of the actual stems and unbarked blocks, presenting their rude surface for the support of the jessamine and flowering plants that adorn it.

The Duke of Gloucester, after embellishing the grounds, sold the whole to John Macnamara, Esq. of whom it was purchased in 1783 by the present noble proprietor.

The prevailing opinion is, that St. Leonard's Hill was a Roman encampment; and the discovery of

some antique coins, many of Vespasian, Trajan, and the Lower Empire, with some spear-heads, and a curious brass lamp, has considerably strengthened this notion. A field on the demesne, named the Hermit's Field, which some time since contained a well, called the Hermit's Well, corroborates the traditionary saying, that St. Leonard's Hill in former times was the abode of a hermit.

THE VINE,

HAMPSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF MRS. CHUTE.

The annexed View represents the Lawn-Front. On the left is seen the chapel erected by the first Lord Sandys. John Chute, who succeeded to this property, was the intimate friend and companion of Walpole and Grey. He possessed much taste, and was distinguished by his love of the arts. This mansion, which had been considerably altered and improved by Chaloner Chute, the Speaker, from designs by Webb, son-in-law to Inigo Jones, was greatly improved by John Chute, Esq. He remodelled the whole of the interior, and erected a handsome staircase, after designs of his own. John Chute, Esq. died in 1776, and was succeeded by Thomas Lobb Chute, of Fakenham, in Norfolk, who died in 1790, aged seventy-eight, and was succeeded by his son, the late William John Chute, M.P. for Hampshire, whose widow now resides here.

Hewetson del.[t]

THE VINE,

SEAT OF W.M JOHN CHUTE, ESQ.

J. Gendall del.^t

IVER GROVE,

SEAT OF THE R.T HON.BLE LORD GAMBIER.

IVER GROVE,

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF LORD GAMBIER.

This house is situated on Shreddings-Green, in the parish of Iver, between Uxbridge and Windsor. Though small, it is a fine specimen of the taste of Sir John Vanbrugh, whose works, generally speaking, possess an originality and a picturesque and stately appearance, that are not to be met with in any other master: there is a boldness and a masculine feeling, as exemplified in the present moderate-sized mansion, which is the result of a breadth of parts, always aimed at and observable in this artist's works. Though he had the good fortune to raise many edifices on an extensive scale, they are costly without grandeur, and large without sublimity. The heaviness that pervades the buildings erected by him gave rise to the well-known couplet:

> Lie heavy on him, Earth! for he
> Laid many a heavy load on thee.

Still it is generally admitted, that he succeeded more than any other architect in forming a general whole, which, when viewed at a distance, possesses a magnificent and imposing effect. This mainly results from the towering elevations and bold projections in which he so much delighted.

The present specimen, though small, possesses all those characteristics: it was built by Sir John for the widow of the Lord Mahon, who fought a duel with the Duke of Hamilton, which proved fatal to them both. The pleasure-grounds and garden are

laid out with great taste; the whole exhibiting a snug and comfortable appearance. It was purchased by the present noble proprietor of Mrs. Colborne, relict of F. Colborne, Esq.

KNOLE,

KENT,

THE RESIDENCE OF THE EARL OF PLYMOUTH.

THIS mansion ranks in the first class of the provincial residences of our nobility. Its original foundation is of so high antiquity, that its date cannot be ascertained by any authenticated documents extant. The earliest mention made of it is in the first years of the reign of King John, when this place was the property of the De Brent family, from which it passed to the Bethuns; and before the conclusion of the same reign it devolved to William Mareschal, Earl of Pembroke, by his marriage with the heiress of the latter. We next find it in the possession of Hugh Bigod, Earl of Norfolk; also in right of marriage with the elder sister of the Earl of Pembroke. The estate was subsequently transmitted through the families of the Grandisons and the Says; and in the time of Henry VI. it was the property of Ralph Lighe, who sold it to James Fiennes. This gentleman, who had accompanied Henry V. in his wars with France, had been rewarded for his services by distinguished honours: he was created Baron Say by Henry VI. summoned to parliament, appointed governor of Dover Castle, and invested with other high offices.

KNOLE,
SEAT OF THE EARL OF PLYMOUTH.

His son, Lord Say and Sele, sold the estate in 1456 to Thomas Bourchier, by whom the house was, in a great measure, rebuilt, and the park inclosed, and who bequeathed this place to the see of Canterbury as a palace for his successors. It was accordingly enjoyed by Archbishops Morton, Dean, Wareham, and Cranmer; but, after the attainder and execution of the latter, it was seized by the Crown. Edward VI. in his fourth year granted Knole in exchange to John Dudley, Earl of Warwick, afterwards created Duke of Norfolk, who was attainted and executed for high-treason in the 1st of Queen Mary, when this property again reverted to the crown, and was granted by the queen to Reginald Pole, Archbishop of Canterbury. At the death of this prelate, which happened on the same day that the queen expired, Knole once more became the property of the crown, and was given by Elizabeth to Henry Carey, Lord Hunsdon, whose grandson conveyed it in 1603 to Thomas Sackville, Earl of Dorset. That nobleman thoroughly repaired the mansion, and made it his residence; and from that period this fine domain has been enjoyed by his descendants, the Earls and Dukes of Dorset.

The architecture of this immense pile bespeaks a variety of dates, the most ancient portions being probably coeval with the Mareschals and Bigods. The whole indeed appears to have been built before it became the property of the Sackvilles, and no part seems to be of more modern date than the reign of Elizabeth. The house is seated on an eminence, in the centre of a fine park, encompassed with beautiful valleys and lofty woods, on the south-

east side of the town of Sevenoaks. It is a noble Gothic pile, of quadrangular form, and with the offices covers above five acres of ground. It consists of two large courts, which lead to a spacious hall; beyond which is another court, conducting to the garden. In the tower over the principal entrance are kept arms for fifty men. This tower is flanked by ranges of uniform buildings, which denote the breadth of the principal part of the edifice from north to south; but from east to west it forms an irregular pile of vast extent and imposing appearance. On the north side the effect of the building is lost, owing to the various offices and plantations; and also on the south, from its walled-in garden and the park timber just beyond it. The design for the engraving was taken from the rising ground in the park, situated nearly north-east, being the only point commanding a view calculated to convey an adequate idea of this palace-like residence.

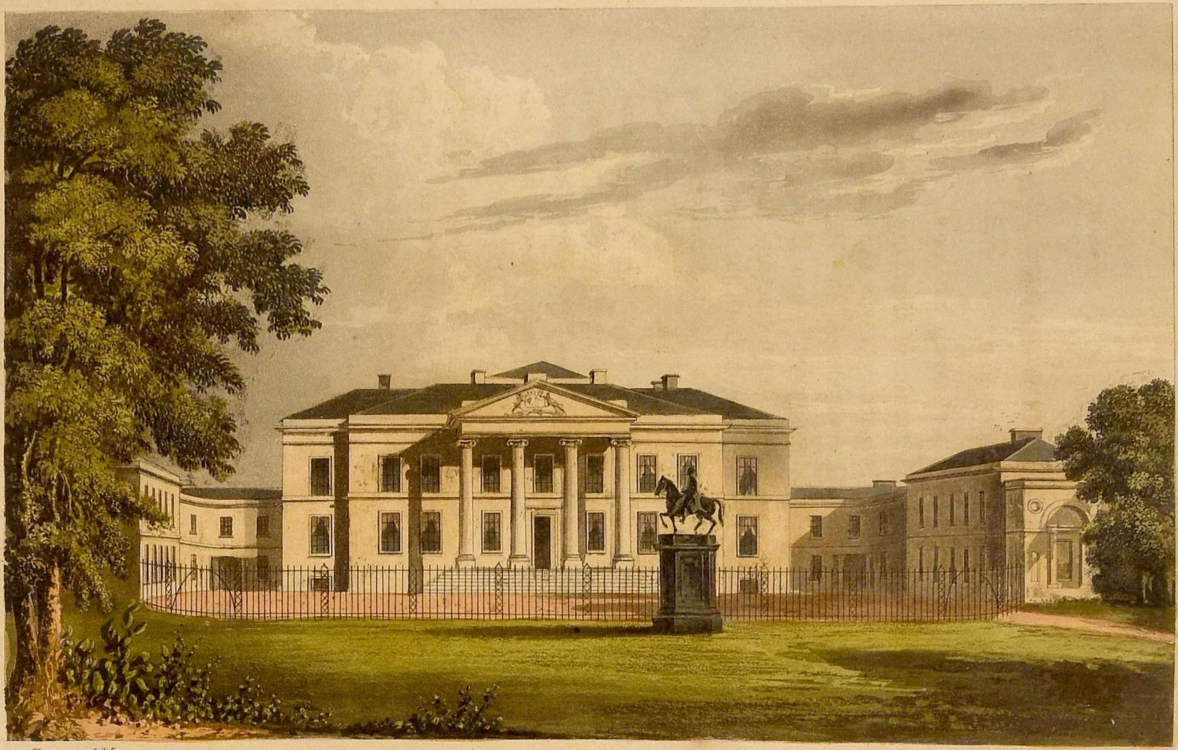
Our limits would not permit a mere enumeration of all the apartments in this building, of the extent of which some idea may be formed from the circumstance, that the principal superintendent of the establishment, who has resided at this place many years, cannot specify with accuracy the number of rooms which it contains. There are, however, upwards of four hundred, and above eighty staircases. The apartments and galleries are decorated with a numerous and valuable collection of pictures, many of them by the first masters of all ages; while the richness and variety of the furniture demonstrate the magnificence and antiquity of the noble family which has so long possessed this mansion.

The Hall is a noble room, seventy-four feet ten inches by twenty-seven feet, and twenty-six feet eight inches high. The Brown Gallery contains a collection of portraits of royal personages, chiefly of the Holbein school, and those of other eminent individuals, members of, or allied to, the noble family of Sackville*. The Cartoon Gallery, thus named from the copies of Raphael's celebrated cartoons by D. Mytens, which adorn it, is a superb apartment, ninety feet in length, eighteen wide, and fifteen in height. The King's Bedchamber is decorated with costly magnificence. It contains a profusion of massy silver urns, flower-pots, and other ornaments of the seventeenth century. The table and stands, the fire-irons, looking-glasses, &c. are framed and ornamented with silver. The toilet also is of silver, of beautiful workmanship. The state bed, with furniture of gold and silver tissue, lined with pink satin, and embroidered with gold and silver, cost £8000. The chapel is a distinct building; and its neatness and simplicity bespeak the purity of the taste that dictated its appointments. The domestic offices are on a most extensive and even a grand scale.

The noble park corresponds with the mansion to which it is attached. It is extensive, ornamented with stately timber, and stocked with numerous herds of fine deer. The line of its surface is perpetually varying, so that new points of view are constantly presenting themselves. Stately beeches

* In 1795 was published an 8vo. volume, containing "Biographical Sketches of eminent Persons whose Portraits form part of the Duke of Dorset's collection at Knole;" written by Henry Norton Willis, Esq.

and venerable oaks fill every part of the landscapes. The plantations are not dotted about in clumps, as if they had no reference to a whole or general effect, but in broad and spacious masses cover the summits of the undulating line, or skirt the valleys in easy sweeps. Two points of view among many others deserve attention. The one is from the end of a valley which runs in a south-west direction from the house, forming a gentle curve. The groves rise magnificently on each side; and the trees, many of them beeches of the largest size, are generally feathered to the bottom. The mansion, with its towers and battlements, and a back-ground of hills covered with wood, terminate the vista. The other view, from a rising ground of the same valley, is of a different kind from the former. On gaining the summit of a hill, a prospect of vast extent bursts at once upon the eye; woods, heaths, towns, and villages, appearing in bright confusion: the sudden and abrupt manner in which the prospect presents itself being in perfect unison with the wildness of the scenery. The eye takes in a great part of West Kent, a considerable portion of Sussex, and the hills of Hampshire in the distance. The fore-ground is woody; whitened steeples rising every where among the trees, with gentlemen's seats scattered round in great abundance; and Penshurst, the ancient residence of the Sidneys, standing conspicuously on a gentle swell, forming a middle point between the fore-ground and the South Downs, that skirt the horizon.



Hewetson del.t

HACKWOOD PARK,

SEAT OF LORD BOLTON.

HACKWOOD PARK,

HAMPSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF LORD BOLTON.

Hackwood is a contraction of *Hawking Wood*, the original name of this place. It was the sporting retreat and occasional residence of the Pawlet family and their numerous relatives, when Basing-House was demolished in 1645, after a long and remarkable resistance. A lodge was then built for the residence of John the fifth Marquis of Winchester. The first Duke of Bolton erected a splendid mansion in 1688; considerable alterations and improvements have since been added. The present carriage front, on the north side, is adorned in the centre with a noble Ionic portico, bearing, in the tympanum of the pediment, the arms and supporters of the family. An equestrian statue of George I., mounted on a lofty pedestal, and presented by that monarch to the family, stands at a small distance in front. It is this front that is represented in the view. The south front was executed by the present nobleman from designs by Lewis Wyatt, Esq. The rooms are spacious and magnificent, and peculiarly adapted for comfort as well as display. In the saloon is a superb piece of carving by Gibbons. The family portraits are numerous: there are also portraits of William III. and George I. presented by the respective monarchs to his noble tfamily.

The pleasure-grounds are extensive and beautiful, particularly on the south. Within these few years

great improvements have been and are still in progress, under the direction of Lady Bolton, whose taste in landscape-gardening is generally admired, and strikingly manifested in these grounds. The wood is wild and luxuriant in appearance. In its centre is a space of about four acres, called the Amphitheatre, bounded by elms closely planted, extending their branches inwardly over the sides and ends of the area, at the upper end of which are the ruins of a rotunda. The park is well stocked with deer.

THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY,

GREENWICH PARK.

The hill in Greenwich Park, now occupied by the Royal Observatory, was before its erection the site of a tower built by Humphry the *good* Duke of Gloucester. This tower, observes Mr. Lysons, was sometimes a habitation for the royal family, sometimes the residence of a favourite mistress, and sometimes a place of defence. Puttenham, in his *Art of English Poesy*, mentions "a fayre ladie whom the king (Henry VIII.) loved," being lodged in it. Mary of York, fifth daughter of Edward IV. died here in 1482; and Elizabeth's favourite, the Earl of Leicester, was confined in this tower, after he had incurred the queen's displeasure by his marriage with the Countess of Essex.

The structure was repaired or rebuilt by Henry VIII. and again enlarged by Henry, the learned Earl of Northampton, to whom it was granted by James I. and who made it his chief residence. Soon

T. H. Shepherd del.

FLAMSTEAD HOUSE.

after the commencement of the civil war, it was thought of such consequence by the Parliament as a place of strength, that immediate steps were ordered to be taken for securing it. Charles II. caused it to be pulled down in 1675, and on its site founded the present Royal Observatory, for the purpose of obtaining a more accurate knowledge of the heavenly bodies, in order to afford greater facility to the attempts at discovering the longitude.

This foundation owed its origin to the following circumstance. M. de St. Pierre, a Frenchman, who came to London in 1675, having demanded a reward from Charles II. for his discovery of the method of finding the longitude by the moon's distance from a star, a commission was appointed to examine into his pretensions. Mr. Flamsteed, who was appointed one of the commissioners, furnished St. Pierre with certain *data* of observation, by which to calculate the longitude of a given place. This he was unable to do, but excused himself by asserting that the *data* were false. Flamsteed contended that they were true, but allowed that nothing certain could be deduced from them, for want of more correct places of the fixed stars than Tycho's observations made with plain sight afforded. This being made known to the king, he declared that his pilots and sailors should not want such an assistance. He resolved therefore to found an observatory, for the purpose of ascertaining the motions of the moon and the places of the fixed stars, as a medium of discovering that great desideratum, the longitude at sea.

This spot was chosen for the edifice on the recommendation of Sir Christopher Wren: the materials of

the old tower were employed to construct the new building, towards the expense of which the king gave £500, and as many bricks as were wanted from a spare stock at Tilbury Fort. It was completed in August 1676; and Flamsteed, who was appointed the first Astronomer Royal, being put in possession, began to make observations in the following month, with a six feet radius contrived by himself, and such other instruments as were then in use. Flamsteed resided many years in this place, which from him received the name of Flamsteed House, doing ample justice to the royal choice, though walking in an almost untrodden path, and being one of the first who employed telescopes for astronomical observations. It was not till 1689 that he had the advantage of a mural quadrant, and that was not such as is now in use, but one contrived and divided partly by himself, without any help but the strength of his own genius.

Flamsteed died at Greenwich in 1719, and was succeeded by Dr. Halley, who fixed a transit instrument, and had a new mural quadrant, of eight feet radius, constructed under the direction of Graham, and put up at the public expense in 1725. This celebrated astronomer, who principally directed his attention to the motions of the moon, died at the Observatory in 1742, and was buried at Lee. Dr. Bradley, his successor, made many important observations; and in his time some very valuable additions were made to the instruments at the Observatory: among them was a new mural brass quadrant, of eight feet radius; a transit instrument, eight feet in length; a moveable quadrant of forty inches radius by Bird;

an astronomical clock by Shelton; and a Newtonian reflecting telescope of six feet focal length by Short. Dr. Bradley died in 1762, and was succeeded by Nathaniel Bliss, M.A. whose decease in 1764 made room for the advancement of the late Astronomer Royal, the Rev. Dr. Maskelyne, in whose time the Observatory was furnished with an excellent achromatic telescope, of forty-six inches focal length, with a treble object-glass, by Dollond; and the whole apparatus was greatly improved by Dollond, Nairne, and Arnold. The present Astronomer Royal is William Pond, Esq., who succeeded Dr. Maskelyne in 1810.

The observations made here by the Astronomer Royal since 1767 have been published annually, under the inspection of the Royal Society, who visit the Observatory once a year. Within the building is a deep dry well, for the purpose of admitting observations to be made on the stars in the day-time. It is from this place that the longitude in all English maps is calculated.

The prospects from the Observatory are very fine; particularly of the metropolis, the county of Essex, and the serpentine windings of the Thames, animated by the crowds of shipping continually navigating its busy stream. Greenwich Hospital is immediately under the eye, and, the adjacent country and river, with London in the distance, present as interesting a *coup d'œil* as can well be imagined. The park itself affords much rich scenery: it was laid out by Le Notre in the time of Charles II. and is planted chiefly with elms and Spanish chesnut, some of the latter of which are very large.

BROADLANDS.

HAMPSHIRE,

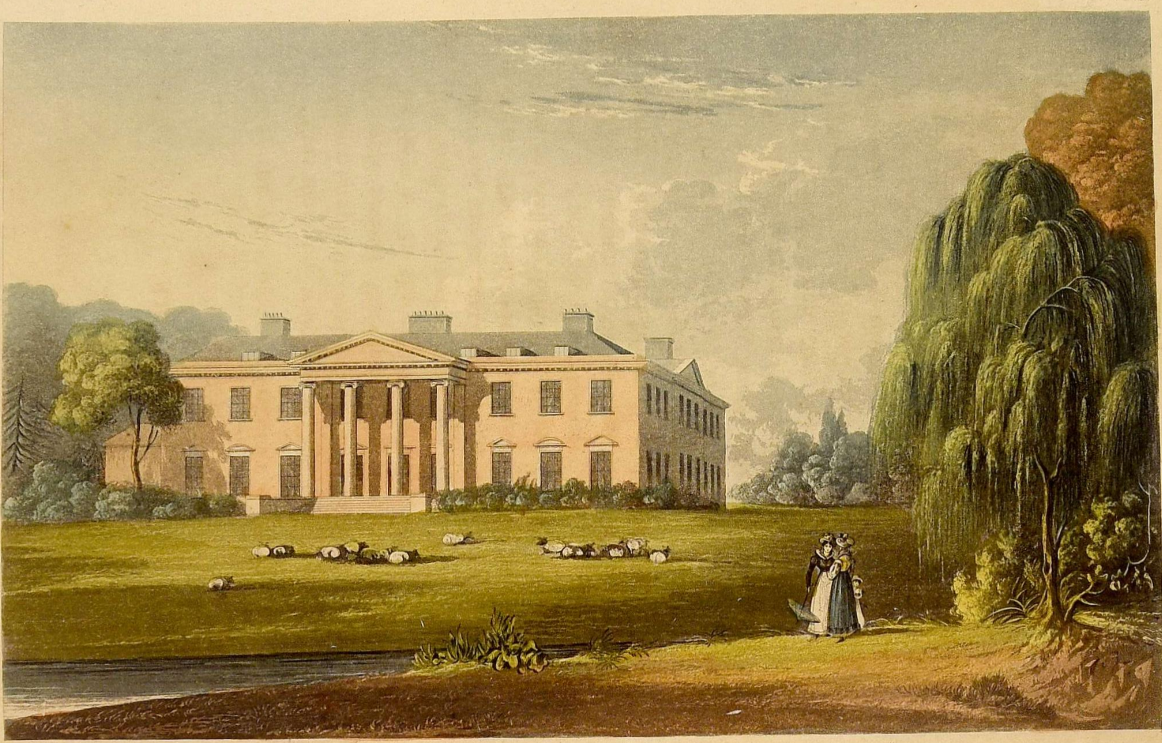
THE SEAT OF LORD VISCOUNT PALMERSTON.

This mansion, which combines in a very eminent degree simplicity with grandeur, was built by Henry Temple, second Viscount Palmerston, from designs by Brown. In the centre is a superb portico of the Ionic order, remarkable for the regularity of its proportions, the ascent to which is by a noble flight of steps. The edifice itself is surmounted with a bold cornice with medallions; it is constructed of white brick and adornments of stone.

The situation of this mansion is peculiarly interesting. Abundance of wood and water contributes to its beauty. It rises in the midst of an extensive and beautiful park, and stands on the east bank of the river Test, which flows gracefully at its foot. The stone bridge over the river at Romsey is a pleasing object, seen from the park, in the distance.

The interior of Broadlands-House evinces a high and cultivated taste throughout all its arrangements. The statues and pictures collected by the late viscount reflect great credit upon that nobleman; they are fine specimens of the perfection of art.

The Broadlands estate was for nearly two hundred years the seat and residence of the St. Barbe family, and there are several curious monuments in the abbey church at Romsey in commemoration of them.



Hewetson del.

BROADLANDS.

DEEPDENE,

SURREY,

THE SEAT OF THOMAS HOPE, ESQ.

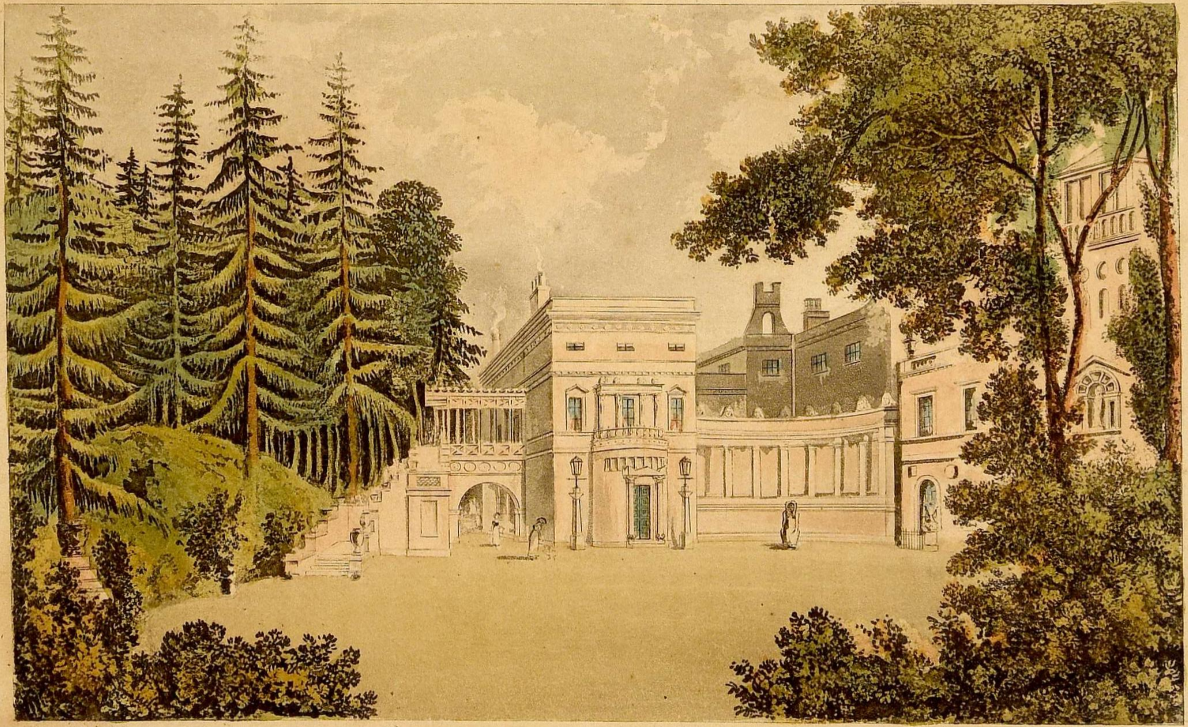
Deepdene, thus named from its situation in a valley surrounded by steep hills, was, in the troublesome and dangerous times of Charles I. the residence of the Earl of Arundel, the celebrated collector of antique statues, and of the marbles known by his name. In the early part of the eighteenth century it was the retreat of the Hon. Charles Howard, who gave it the name of Long Hope, "that is," says the *Magna Britannia*, "deep valley; where, in a most pleasant and delightful solitude, he hath placed his house, gardens, orchards, and boscages. The house is not built for grandeur, but retirement—a noble hermitage, neat, elegant, and suitable to the genius of the proprietor, a christian philosopher, who lives up to primitive piety. The Hope he hath cast into the form of a theatre, having six narrow walks, like benches one above another. In the garden, which may seem a second Eden, there are twenty-one sorts of thyme, many rare flowers and choice plants, as myrtles, syringas, orange-trees, &c. In the hill is a cave digged thirty-six feet long, through which, as through a tube, there is a visto over all the south parts of Surrey and Sussex, as far as the sea. On the south side of the hill is a vineyard of many acres; and on the west, a laboratory and a neat oratory. Where, under heaven, can be a sweeter place?"

This romantic spot descended to the predecessor of the late Duke of Norfolk, who pulled down the old

house, erected the present mansion on its site, and made great improvements in the grounds. The late duke sold the estate in 1791 to the late Sir William Burrell, Bart. who died in 1796; but his lady continued to reside here till her death. It then came into the possession of Sir Charles Burrell, Bart. of whom it was purchased by Thomas Hope, Esq. who here displays his refined taste and superior powers, as well in the improvement of this lovely spot, as in the walks of literature and the arts.

That part of the house represented in the annexed view is entirely the creation of Mr. Hope, being an addition to, and at the back of, the mansion, a part of which, as shewn in the plate, is connected with, and judiciously surrounded by, a chaste screen, which balances an elegant flight of steps that communicates with Mrs. Hope's apartments, consisting of a boudoir, bath, bedroom, &c. fitted up with a delicate attention to simplicity combined with richness. This connects with the principal apartments in the main building. In the rear of this elegant portion of the edifice, Mr. Hope is forming a conservatory and statue-gallery, which will be adorned by the valuable collection of statues from his town-house.

The interior is fitted up in the most chaste style, combining elegance with simplicity and comfort. It is not in the house alone that Mr. Hope's fine taste is displayed; for the romantic grounds abound in embellishments, unique in their kind. Not a seat but bears the mark of a master hand, to say nothing of the ornamental bridges, entrance-gates, lodges, green-houses, orangeries, pineries; all have some elegant peculiarity, and all, even the dairy, stables,



J. Gendall del.

DEEPDENE

THE SEAT OF THOMAS HOPE, ESQ.

and outhouses, are made to add grandeur to this enchanting spot, which may justly be termed a fairy region. It possesses its caves, grottoes, hermitages, and subterranean passages. The flower-garden extends along a beautiful dell or vale, still called the Long Hope; while the acclivity on either side is clothed and crowned with overhanging woods; the whole forming a glorious living amphitheatre.

Salmon, on visiting this delightful place, observes, "If we were to search through the island for a place to perform the religious rites of the Celts, nothing comes up to the amphitheatre of Deepdene, adjoining to Cotmandene: I will not say there are any vestiges of their sacrifices; but the place by nature is so surprisingly contrived for worship or theatrical entertainment, as if it had been cut out of the hill by human hands. The figure of it tempted the Hon. Mr. Howard to turn it into a vineyard, and to grace it with all the variety that planting and gardening could add. It is at present woody on the north side to the top, and probably was such anciently on the concave side. No Druid could see this beauty neglected, nor doubt that nature had formed it for the adoration of the Deity, where sacrifices might be performed with the greatest solemnity; the scene commanding the veneration of the people, and the capacious theatre containing a greater number than ever attended a show of gladiators. On both sides of this romantic place stand hills of vast height and beautiful aspect."

Serpentine walks and drives through the woods are continued to a charming terrace, lined with fine beech-trees, on the brow of the hill, where a view,

scarcely to be conceived, opens to the eye of the delighted spectator. Chart park* lies immediately at his feet, sloping down in lawny undulations, and uniting as it were with the beautiful and extended valley of Reigate, backed with the distant blue wood-covered hills; while the classical Deepdene, through which you have ascended, forms, with the Guildford hills, Box-hill, Norbury-park, and the Denbighs, a lovely panorama.

An elegantly proportioned architectural embellishment, a memorial of fraternal affection, graces the centre of this terrace, and has a pretty effect from the grounds beneath. It is a simple pediment, supported by two columns, beneath which is a stone seat. On the pediment is inscribed, "FRATRI OPTIMO."

In traversing these ever-varying, ever-beautiful grounds, will be found a spot where repose two youths, sons of Mr. Hope, who constructed here a mausoleum: it is capable of containing twenty bodies. A noble simplicity pervades it, and the scene is such as tends to heal the wounded feelings of the

* Chart park is now the property of Mr. Hope, who pulled down the house and offices, and annexed the grounds to the Deepdene estate. This park was formed by Henry Talbot, Esq., a son of Dr. William Talbot, Bishop of Durham, brother of Lord Talbot, Lord High Chancellor of England. The last owner and resident was the late Sir Charles Talbot, Bart., by whose devisees it was sold to the present proprietor. This estate was long eminent for its vineyard and delightful scenery. From an eminence, on which is a fine clump of firs, called Dorking's Glory, the views are very delightful and extensive, commanding not only the vales of Leatherhead and Dorking, but a long tract of the southern parts of Surrey, quite to the border of Sussex.

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J. Gendall del.^t

DITTON.

SEAT OF LORD MONTAGU.

heart, and to make it bow with resignation to the decrees of Providence. This feeling, this fondness for shrubberies and gardens, have marked the expiring wishes of some of the greatest, wisest, and best, of men: indeed, it is perfectly natural that they should desire their mortal remains to be deposited in scenes and among objects, which, while living, they loved to contemplate and to admire.

DITTON-PARK,

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF LORD MONTAGU.

Ditton, with the manor, was granted by Edward III. in 1335, to William de Montacute, who, in the same year conveyed it to Sir John Molines, who held it with the manor of Stoke-Pogis. After various successive owners, we find it, in the reign of James I., in the possession of Sir Ralph Winwood, then principal Secretary of State: his daughter Ann being married to Edward Lord Montagu of Baughton in Northamptonshire, Ditton became his in right of his wife. From him it passed to his son Ralph, created Duke of Montagu; descending then to his son John Duke of Montagu, at whose death it became the joint property of his two daughters, Mary, married to George Earl of Cardigan, afterwards created Duke of Montagu; and Isabella, married first to William Montagu, the second Duke of Manchester, and secondly to Sir Edward Hussey, K.B., created after his marriage Earl of Beaulieu: on the death of whom, with their husbands, Ditton became the joint pro-

perty of the late Duke and the Duchess Dowager of Buccleugh, her grace being the only child of George Duke of Montagu. The present proprietor, Lord Montagu, is her second son.

Ditton Park is in the parish of Datchet, about three miles from Windsor. It is occasionally the residence of Lord Montagu, but the lowness of the ground, and consequent dampness of the site, prevent the family from constantly residing on it. The old mansion was destroyed by fire in the night of the 28th April, 1812; part of the furniture, and a fine portrait of Sir Ralph Winwood, were saved from the flames. The house possessed no particular claim to notice; it had been enlarged at various times.

The present mansion, as shewn in the view of the Garden-Front, is a handsome Gothic structure, and was built by Atkinson. The offices and stables are convenient and extensive. It may be said to stand on an island, from the breadth of the moat that surrounds the house. Its communication with the main land is by draw-bridges, with the exception of the principal entrance, to which there is a stone bridge of five arches. The island is laid out in pleasure-grounds, and it possesses some fine timber, for which the park is remarkable. Ditton is a hamlet of Stoke-Pogis, with a chapel of ease. A neat pretty Gothic chapel is built in the park for the use of the family; near which, planted out from observation, are the kitchen-gardens, which are extensive.

Hewetson del.t

STONEHAM PARK,

THE SEAT OF JOHN FLEMING, ESQ. M.P.

STONEHAM-PARK,

HAMPSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF JOHN FLEMING, ESQ. M. P.

STONEHAM-PARK, about nine miles south from the city of Winchester, and five miles distant from Southampton, is situated in a beautiful and finely varied part of Hampshire, watered by the meanderings of the Itchen, the rising hills and open plains of which are delightfully interspersed with rich woodland scenery. The park is not less than five miles in circumference, commanding, from various situations, a change of prospect of the most pleasing kind. It is well wooded, containing, besides a number of judicious plantations, some very old forest-trees, and abounds with deer. The Belvidere Lodge at the upper part of the park, erected after designs by Mr. Hopper, is probably the most splendid in the kingdom, as well from the incomparable beauty of its situation, as from the remarkable taste displayed in its architecture. The pleasure-grounds were originally laid out by that master of landscape-gardening, Brown, but have been since his time very considerably improved.

The mansion has been lately erected by the present proprietor, and is constructed of fine white brick, with all its architectural adornments of Portland stone. It stands on a site well chosen for picturesque beauty, commanding a distant view of the Southampton water, bounded by the New Forest and the Isle of Wight. The principal front is

towards the west, upon which is a noble portico of four columns, with an appropriate pediment. The peculiarly graceful proportions of the Ionic order were never more happily displayed than in this entrance; it is alike creditable to the taste and ability of the architect, and demands unqualified admiration.

A bold entablature is continued round the mansion; and upon the south is a corridor, designed in corresponding taste, with columns resembling those of the portico, the whole height of the building. Upon this front the edifice rises from a beautifully wooded glen, through which is conducted a very handsome and extensive sheet of water. On the north are the offices, screened by trees in the front. Within the park is the parish church of North Stoneham, a pleasing object, containing several monuments of the Flemings, from the age of Elizabeth to the present time. One of them commemorates Sir Thomas Fleming, Knight, Lord Chief Justice of England, who was held in "especial grace and favour both by Queen Elizabeth and James I." and died in the year 1613, at the age of sixty-eight. The monument bears his effigies and that of his lady in the rich costume of that period. Here is also a monument to the memory of Admiral Lord Hawke, bearing the arms of his family, together with a representation of the battle with Conflans in Quiberon bay in 1759. His lordship died October 17, 1781, aged seventy-two. John Fleming, Esq. the present proprietor of Stoneham-Park, is a representative in Parliament for the county.

31a

F.W.L. Stockdale del.^t

SUTTON HALL,

THE SEAT OF RICHARD ARKWRIGHT, ESQ.

SUTTON-HALL,

DERBYSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF RICHARD ARKWRIGHT, ESQ.

This truly splendid mansion is situated at a short distance on the right of the road, about four miles from the town of Chesterfield, in an extensive park, embellished with fine plantations and spacious fish-ponds. This valuable estate, together with the manor of Sutton in the Dale, has only lately become the property of Mr. Arkwright; it having formerly belonged to the late Marquis of Ormond, and after the death of that nobleman remained a considerable time unoccupied.

Sutton-Hall is one of the most elegant mansions in the county, and was built at a very considerable expense by the last Earl of Scarsdale. The principal front, which is represented in the plate, commands a variety of extensive and diversified prospects, among which the ruins of Bolsover-Castle cannot fail to excite the attention of every visiter to this interesting place.

Willersley-Castle, another beautiful seat in this county, also belongs to Mr. Arkwright, who possesses many valuable works of art, especially some of the best specimens of landscape-painting by the celebrated Wright, of Derby.

The town of Chesterfield, which is in the vicinity of Sutton-Park, is remarkable for its extensive iron-works; but in other respects it is a place of little importance.

TRENTHAM-HALL,

STAFFORDSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF THE MARQUIS OF STAFFORD.

This beautiful estate derives its name from the river Trent, that winds through the grounds, lingering as if lothe to depart from the exquisite scenes which it traverses. In parts it expands into lakes, which, with the overhanging woods and islands, produce a fine effect, as viewed from the principal apartments of the mansion. The woods are beautiful and diversified, from the fine disposition of the ground, and here and there swell into the richest possible masses. Some fine drives extend through the domain.

The mansion is situated on the verge of the park, about four miles from Newcastle-under-Line, and five miles from Stone. It has been in the possession of the present noble family from the beginning of the 17th century, prior to which it was for many ages the property of the Levesons. The View embraces the Entrance-Front and the Garden-Front. What may properly be termed the pleasure-garden is limited, but it contains some fine specimens of ancient sculpture. The edifice is of considerable extent, and has been built about a century; but considerable alterations and improvements have been made by the present marquis, who had recourse to the assistance of Holland. The dining-room and private apartments to the east, as well as the draw-

J. Gendall del.[t]

TRENTHAM HALL,

THE SEAT OF THE MARQUIS OF STAFFORD.

ing-room to the west, are a portion of the admirable additions. The house is extensive, compact, and truly comfortable. The effect is pleasing, and, as seen from various parts of the grounds, truly grand. The interior is fitted up with infinite taste; but what particularly deserves attention is the superb collection of paintings, both ancient and modern, that adorns the various suites of rooms.

The hall is a fine room, about thirty-nine feet by twenty-seven, and contains some fine full-lengths, the frames forming part of the embellishments of the wall. This hall communicates with the old library, a fine room, the ceiling of which is highly ornamented. It contains a number of fine portraits by Phillips, Jackson, Romney, and other artists.

Some frames containing fine miniatures, with some casts and mosaics, and a few fine paintings by Watteau and Giulio Clovio, finish the productions contained in this room, which communicates with the drawing-room, delightfully fitted up with some chaste pieces of inlaid work and ebony bookcases; the furniture blue and gold. This room alone contains a charming collection of paintings, chiefly by modern artists.

From the drawing-room the visiter recrosses the old library through the saloon, along which stretches the conservatory, forming a pleasing feature as connected with the flower-garden and lawn, with the sweet views that extend beyond, embellished with a fine sheet of water. This portion of the estate has been considerably improved of late by the formation of islands, which, when well covered with wood, will have a rich effect, with their fine and ever-varying

reflections on the bosom of the lake, as viewed from the house.

On a line connected with the saloon is the new library, fitted up in a tasteful style, containing an excellent collection of the works of the best authors, and some paintings, chiefly portraits. This library communicates with the ante-room and a noble dining-room. The state rooms are rich and powerful in effect, and contain a number of fine paintings by the best masters. The bed is canopied, and crimson and gold, and the room hung with fine old tapestry.

The staircase leads to a series of bed-rooms and dressing-rooms, with suites of other apartments under various denominations, containing a variety of capital portraits. Among them are works of Jansen, Sir Peter Lely, Sir Joshua Reynolds, Hogarth, Phillips, Edridge, Downman, and some by Angelica Kauffman.

Attached to the back of the mansion is the parish church, the vaults of which and the burial-ground are said to extend beneath the dwelling. The church-yard is not now used as a burial-ground, except for widows and widowers of the past century. A cemetery has been formed for the rising generation on the other side of the great road, in the centre of which the present marquis has raised a stately Mausoleum, which is the subject of the Second View. It is simple in its parts, and forms one spacious vaulted chamber, containing a number of recesses. As seen from the high-road, from which the view was taken, its form, surmounted with a cross, is impressive and picturesque.

34A

J. Gendall del.t

MAUSOLEUM, at TRENTHAM,

(the Seat of the Marquis of Stafford.)

34A

35a

J. Gendall del.t

STOKE PLACE,

THE SEAT OF COL.L VYSE.

STOKE-PLACE,

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF COLONEL VYSE.

Stoke-Place is situated in the parish of Stoke, about four miles north-west of Windsor. It is an old-fashioned but comfortable house, covering a considerable space, and enlivened by some very fine trees of the acacia and cedar species, that grow most luxuriantly a few yards from the mansion. The cedars are remarkably fine; their dark tone admirably contrasts with the variety of woods that embellish the lawn.

Before Field-Marshal Sir George Howard, K. B. (grandfather to the present owner), became the possessor, the grounds were laid out in the old-fashioned villa taste, of which happily few specimens now exist in this country. Besides birds, quadrupeds, and bipeds, that seemed to exist in these grounds, of box and other shrubs, here were holly-hedges carefully formed into the shape of breakfast-tables, with a representation of a court breakfast of the age, all formed of the living box, to commemorate a royal breakfast that took place on the lawn. These absurdities disappeared before the genius of Brown, and, if he had left no other work, this charming place would have sufficed to stamp his fame for landscape-gardening.

The walks are natural, and extend a considerable distance, at times striking into the woods, and at others continued by the water, of which there is a

fine sheet, that adds considerably to the embellishment and beauty of the grounds. In a line with the edifice is a handsome green-house, near which a rustic bridge is thrown across the water, embosomed in woods. This leads to a small but pleasing temple, from which the home scenes and the overhanging woods, with a delightful turn of the lake, form a sequestered and truly beautiful scene.

The embellishments in the park and pleasure-grounds are numerous and in the best taste. The walk continues from the temple to a wood, in which stands an ice-house, surmounted by a Gothic tower, forming a picturesque object. The woods are so interwoven as to constitute groves that exclude the mid-day sun; affording in summer cool delicious walks, leading among a variety of woods to a considerable distance, embracing a picturesque rustic covered seat on a wooded eminence: a winding path leads round to the base, the interior of which is a grotto of considerable magnitude, formed with a great variety of fine specimens of Bristol spar and other minerals. To this grotto is attached an inner chamber, which forms a bath: the whole is sequestered, and the water approaches its side in serpentine forms. Hence the principal walk continues by the water, in its approach to the house passing some flower-gardens, with their embellishments. Windsor Castle, Stoke church, and Gray's monument, are pleasing objects as seen from various parts of the grounds.

The mansion contains several good paintings, and among them is a fine portrait of Sir George Howard, by Sir Joshua Reynolds.

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Hewetson del.

WESTDEAN HOUSE,

THE SEAT OF LORD SELSEY.

WESTDEAN-HOUSE,

SUSSEX,

THE SEAT OF LORD SELSEY.

Among the many beautiful mansions which adorn the county of Sussex, Westdean-House stands pre-eminent for elegance of external appearance, and a happy combination of every thing appertaining to internal comfort, refinement, and display. The alterations in the ancient residence of this noble family were commenced by James Lord Selsey, and completed by his son John, the father of the present peer. The whole was directed by the professional skill and cultivated taste of the late Mr. Wyatt, whose judgment was even extended to most of the interior decorations and furniture. On the accession of the present peer to the honours of his ancestors, little remained to be done with reference to the mansion; and his Lordship's attention has been therefore chiefly directed to the improvement of the grounds and of the magnificent estate by which it is surrounded. The plantations made by this nobleman already cover eight hundred acres, and are beginning to present a most splendid sylvan appearance.

The gardens of Westdean still retain their ancient celebrity for the extraordinary fineness and profuse variety of rare fruits; and the flower-garden, which is altogether the creation of the present Lady Selsey, and is of very considerable extent, is perhaps equalled only by that of Lady Grenville at Dropmore.

Westdean has been long the residence of the noble family of Peachey, who, previous to their elevation to

the peerage, were frequently representatives of the county of Sussex. They are descended from the ancient Barons of Peché of Kingsthorpe, in the county of Leicester; from which house also sprung Hamon Peché, summoned to Parliament from the 28th of Edward I. to 10th of Edward II. as Lord Peché of Brume, in the county of Cambridge. Henry, the present Lord Selsey, succeeded his father in 1816, and married, the year following, the Hon. Anna Maria Louisa Irby, youngest daughter of Frederick, the late Lord Boston.

THE ROOKERY,

SURREY,

THE SEAT OF RICHARD FULLER, ESQ.

The Rookery, situated near Dorking, was formerly a farm-house called Chert-gate, and, for a considerable period, the property of the Comber family, one of whom sold it to Abraham Tucker, Esq., of Betchworth Castle. In 1759 it became, by purchase, the property of Daniel Malthus*, Esq., father of the celebrated political economist of that name. The beauties of the situation, possessing in itself hill, dale, overhanging woods, a delightful stream of water—all the requisites for a display of good taste in landscape-gardening, induced Mr. Malthus to convert the farm-house into the present genteel

* Mr. Malthus was not unknown in the literary world as a man of taste and learning. Among his productions are, an *Essay on Landscape Gardening*, and elegant translations of *Paul and Virginia*, and *The Sorrows of Werter*.

J. Gendall del.^t

THE ROOKERY,

Seat of R. Fuller Esq.

residence. He turned, at the same time, his active talent to the improvement of the natural beauties of this his retreat, which he denominated the Rookery. To him it is mainly indebted for its present delightful arrangement.

The house stands in the vale of Mereden, about a quarter of a mile from the main road, and is now the residence of Mrs. Fuller, though the property of her eldest son, Richard Fuller, Esq. It has no pretension to architectural beauty or character, but has some affinity to the Gothic, from its Gothic pinnacles, and being surmounted with embattled parapets. Its appearance is comfortable, and consistent with the surrounding sylvan scenery, as shown in the annexed view. The boldly rising hill in the rear of the dwelling is charmingly covered with overhanging beech-wood, imparting a rural solitude to this sequestered retreat. The birch and beech here seem to attain an unusual height, forming, with other varieties of luxuriant trees, a zone of forest scenery around the demesne, of remarkable beauty. The woods extend a considerable distance, and are delightfully intersected with serpentine walks, which, at intervals, skirt the water, and, at other places, penetrate the umbrageous gloom to the tops of the surrounding hills.

The estate is charmingly watered by a stream which rises at the upper end of Mereden vale, at the base of Leith-hill, whence it winds its way to the delightful sloping lawn in front of the house, where it forms a sheet of water, in the bosom of which is a small island clothed with exotic and late-flowering shrubs. Connected with this water, is

what may be called a lake, which, with its accompaniments, is romantic in the extreme. A ruinous fishing-house, partly hidden by wood, imparts wildness to a small island. The water is shaded on all sides by fine wood, which rises from the very margin. Several rude structures, a rustic boat-house, a corn-mill, and a picturesque ice-house, add to the embellishments of this enchanting spot. The rivulet, after forming the glassy lake, and gurgling among broken precipices, glens, and nooks, takes its course parallel to the town of Dorking, where it assumes the name of Pipbrook, supplying, in the course of two miles, six corn-mills, before it empties itself into the river Mole under Box-hill. A public foot-path winds through the Rookery grounds up the vale to a farm belonging to the hospital of the Holy Trinity at Guildford, founded by Archbishop Abbot.

In a copse upon this farm is a spring, called Mag's Well, celebrated in the neighbourhood for the extraordinary cures attributed to its water, which is extremely pure, and, when applied outwardly, detergent. The notion of its salutary properties is of high antiquity ; for Aubrey and Camden describe the spring as possessing powerful medicinal qualities in scrofulous and cutaneous disorders, in man and beast. Accordingly there is a convenient place for the immersion not only of bipeds but of quadrupeds, which are frequently brought from a distance to be cured at Mag's Well. It is said to have been found, on accurate analysis, nearly to resemble the Malvern water.

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F. W. Stockdale del.^t

SALTRAM,

THE SEAT OF EARL MORLEY.

SALTRAM,

DEVONSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF THE EARL OF MORLEY.

Among the numerous elegant residences which the county of Devon presents to notice, none possesses greater attraction than Saltram. Much expense has been incurred by its noble owner to improve the building; and, although the exterior is not remarkable for architectural embellishment, yet the interior is most superb, and contains numerous choice works of art. The pictures amount to nearly three hundred, and during the summer season afford a pleasing exhibition to the numerous visiters of this charming spot.

The situation of Saltram is one of the most delightful in England; the house is built on the eastern banks of the Laira, and which, at high tide, is navigable for vessels of considerable tonnage. The approach to the house, after passing the flying bridge (which is sheltered by some fine trees, whose shady branches render it in summer-time a most charming promenade), is truly delightful; but, to remedy the inconvenience and delay which had previously taken place by crossing the fly-bridge, a new bridge has been constructed, and is a great improvement.

The grounds round the mansion abound with a variety of charming prospects; indeed, few places possess so great a diversity of landscape and mossy woods; and their beauty is considerably improved by their proximity to Mount Edgecumbe and Ply-

mouth Sound, where numerous masts of vessels are continually intervening at the opening spaces of the plantations in the park. The principal approach to Saltram is by an elegant lodge, about four miles from Plymouth, which unites with a small steep bridge, over which the mail-road to Exeter is formed.

WIDEY,

DEVONSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF ANDERSON MORSHEAD, ESQ.

From the circumstance of this place having been the temporary residence of King Charles I. during the civil wars, it possesses much interest, although it is not remarkable for architectural grandeur. It is situated about two miles from the town of Plymouth: the peculiar beauty of the country in its immediate neighbourhood cannot fail to gratify every visiter; and, notwithstanding its proximity to the principal of our maritime ports, it forms a most agreeable retreat. The ancient mansion has undergone considerable alterations and improvement since it has been in the possession of the present proprietor. The approach to the house is by a neat modern lodge on the right of the road leading from Plymouth to Tavistock, and which is a conspicuous object in this part of the country. Among the improvements which have taken place, a very handsome dining-room, erected at the western angle of the building, is particularly deserving of attention, especially as it contains several fine works of art. The house contains a copious

F. W. L. Stockdale del.^t

WIDEY,

SEAT OF ANDERSON MORSHEAD, ESQ.^R

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F. W. Stockdale del.^t

St PIERRE,

THE SEAT OF CHARLES LEWIS, ESQ.

library, furnished with many rare works in almost every branch of literature. In the conservatory are some very rare foreign plants, which here grow in great perfection, owing, in a great measure, to the peculiar mildness of the atmosphere of Devonshire.

ST. PIERRE,

MONMOUTHSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF CHARLES LEWIS, ESQ.

This is one of the most ancient seats in the county of Monmouth, and is most charmingly situated on the southern banks of the Severn, commanding a most extensive prospect over the counties of Gloucester and Somerset. St. Pierre derives its name from a small parish about three miles from Chepstow, and has considerable claim to notice: although the original character of the building has been greatly altered by an incongruous mixture of modern windows, in place of the ancient Gothic ones, yet here are many objects to interest the antiquary. Approaching the mansion is an ancient castellated gateway, embellished with the arms of the family; and nearly adjoining it is the church, a small low structure, almost surrounded by trees.

In the front of the church are two very curious sepulchral stones, which were accidentally found by some labourers about the year 1764. Engravings of both have been published in the "Archæologia" and "Gentleman's Magazine." From the inscription on one of them, it appears to have been erected to the memory of Urien St. Pierre, who lived in the reign of

Henry III. The family of the possessors of St. Pierre is one of the most ancient in the kingdom, being descended from Cadifor, or Cedivor, prince of Pembrokeshire, and has been settled here for some centuries.

The interior of the mansion contains a number of spacious apartments; but the drawing-room possesses the chief attraction, being embellished with some rare works of art. The dining-parlour also contains a few valuable pictures, which have been collected by Lietenant-Colonel Lewis, the son of the present possessor, a warm admirer of the arts.

In the drawing-room are two very valuable carved antique chalices, supposed to have belonged to some ancient monastery in Germany.

The grounds belonging to St. Pierre are extremely beautiful; the hills of the park, like all those on the borders of the Severn, afford various views, rendered brilliant by their fore-ground. The approach is through the park, and no break being made to give an ostentatious view of the house, the woods and glades are enjoyed without interruption.

Near St. Pierre is the new passage or ferry over the Severn, by which the Welsh mail is forwarded. Boats are constantly to be hired, and the inn kept by Mr. Smith affords excellent accommodation for travellers. It is, however, necessary to notice the imposition which is practised by the boatmen should a stranger require to cross the river after the ferry-boat has sailed; the usual charge by the latter being one shilling and sixpence. The neighbourhood of St. Pierre presents numerous attractions, especially for the pencil of an artist; viz. the ruins of Caldecot and Chepstow Castle, Tintern Abbey, &c. &c.

J. Gendall del.^t

BEAUMONT LODGE,
SEAT OF VISCOUNT ASHBROOKE.

BEAUMONT LODGE,

BERKSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF VISCOUNT ASHBROOK.

This delightful villa is situated in Old Windsor, on the banks of the Thames, and is the property of Henry Jeffery Flower, Viscount Ashbrook, who purchased it in 1806. The original house, of which but little remains, was built in the beginning of the last century by Henry Frederick Thynne, Esq. of the family of the present Marquis of Bath. We find it next in the possession of the Duchess of Kent, who sold it to the Duke of Roxburgh in 1750, when it became the residence of his son, the Marquis of Beaumont; since which time it has borne the name of Beaumont Lodge, though it has successively been in the possession of his Royal Highness the late Duke of Cumberland, Thomas Watts, Esq. Warren Hastings, Esq. governor-general of Bengal, and was for some time the residence of Earl Mulgrave's father. Warren Hastings sold it to Henry Griffiths, Esq. to whom the mansion owes its present appearance; he demolished the whole structure, with the exception of a portion of the west wing. The principal front is of considerable elevation; it has a corridor, which consists of coupled columns, or rather columns in imitation of twin trees growing from one root; the shield of a knight is introduced between the stems, and the capitals are formed after the caps worn by the knights of the Garter; the star of the order forms a centre, the whole furnished with Ionic volutes and other emblematical figures of the arms of England.

The metopes are ornamented by the George and collar; the ornaments of the frieze over the columns are composed of ostrich feathers, tied with ribbons and blended with acorns, while the continued frieze is made up of naval and military trophies. The columns are thirty-six feet eight inches in height.

The description of this novelty is particular, it being intended as a new order, to be denominated the British Order. It is well known that the French long since encouraged the attempt to compose a new order; Louis XIV having offered a reward to any one who should form one; still it was not effected, and we must leave it to the world to judge if Mr. Emlyn has been more fortunate. The attempt is praiseworthy, but the purity and the splendour of our existing orders render all such attempts difficult, if not impossible.

The interior of this mansion is elegant and convenient. Among other pictures, is an original portrait of Oliver Cromwell, brought by Lord Ashbrook from his manor-house at Hitcham. The views from the front of the house are pleasing, embracing the Thames, with all its sinuosities and well-wooded banks. The grounds, though limited, are varied and beautiful, from their sweeping along the side of a hill, from the brow of which the views are very fine; the castle of Windsor coming full upon the view on the one side, while a rich extent of country is commanded on the other, embracing St. Leonard's Hill with its fine woods, crowned by the mansion of Earl Harcourt. To the east, a portion of London may be distinctly seen in fine weather. The view is taken from the opposite bank, shewing the full extent of the river, with a portion of its surrounding scenery.

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KITLEY.

SEAT OF E. P. BASTARD, ESQ.[R] M.P.

KITLEY,

DEVONSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF EDMUND POLLEXFEN BASTARD, ESQ. M.P.

This interesting mansion is situated about seven miles from Plymouth, a short distance on the right of the new road leading to Modbury and Kingsbridge, and about one mile from the romantic village of Yealmpton. In the erection of this seat considerable taste has been displayed; and although much credit is due to Mr. G. S. Repton for the improvements which have lately taken place under his direction, still the favourable situation of the building tends materially to heighten the effect. It is a quadrangular structure, of the prevailing style of architecture of the reign of Elizabeth, having numerous transom windows, long ornamented chimneys, finials, &c. and is chiefly composed of the Devonshire marble or Loine stone, which is obtained in the neighbourhood. The principal entrance is on the eastern side, over which are the arms of the family; and the hall is an elegant piece of Gothic workman ship, composed entirely of polished wainscot. The apartments are not only extremely commodious but most elegantly fitted up, particularly the drawing-room, which adjoins the library, having columns in imitation of yellow marble. The chief attractions, however, are the numerous works of art which it contains, especially some of the most exquisite productions of Sir Joshua Reynolds and other eminent artists.

Kitley appears to have become the property of Mr. Bastard by marriage with the heiress of Edmund

Pollexfen, Esq. The grounds are extensive and admirably laid out, and being embellished with a beautiful lake, or estuary, formed from the river Yealm, they are truly delightful.

A few years since a curious cavern was discovered in this neighbourhood, regarding which many strange conjectures have arisen; and, from the sequestered nature of the place, it is not improbable that it was either a resort for robbers, or an abode for wild animals.

The present possessor of Kitley, E. P. Bastard, Esq. was returned as one of the representatives in Parliament for the county of Devon on the demise of his uncle, and is a gentleman possessing much taste for the fine arts.

WONHAM,

SURREY,

THE SEAT OF VISCOUNT TEMPLETOWN.

Among the numerous splendid mansions, at least those which have been erected in the Gothic style of architecture, there are few which possess a more pleasing or striking appearance than Wonham, represented in the annexed engraving. This truly elegant seat is situated near Betchworth, in a very beautiful part of the county, which is enlivened by the meanderings of the river Mole. The estate was formerly the property of the late Earl of Romney, who rebuilt the mansion, but on his accession to the title disposed of it to John Stables, Esq. from whom it was purchased in the year 1804 by the present noble possessor.

F.W.L. Stockdale del.[t]

WONHAM,

SEAT OF THE R.T HON.BLE LORD TEMPLETON.

48A

WOBURN ABBEY,

BEDFORDSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF THE DUKE OF BEDFORD.

Woburn Abbey was founded in 1145 by Hugh de Bolebeck, a baron who had large possessions in the vicinity, for monks of the Cistercian order. On the suppression of religious houses, its revenues, according to Dugdale, amounted to £391 8*s.* 2*d.* In the first year of Edward VI. it was granted, with many other ecclesiastical estates, to Sir John, afterwards Lord Russell and Earl of Bedford, who had been honoured with several employments by Henry VIII. In his family the possession has ever since remained.

The extensive and magnificent mansion, which stands on the site of the old abbey, was erected by John, the fourth duke of the Russell family. The ground-plan forms a square of more than two hundred feet, containing a quadrangular court in the centre. The original mansion has experienced many considerable alterations and improvements, particularly in the time of the predecessor of the present noble owner; and Henry Holland displayed much taste and talent in the designs for the additional buildings, which were executed under his direction.

The west front is of the Ionic order, with a rusticated basement. The principal floor on this side consists of a saloon, state bed-room, drawing and dining-rooms. The south contains the library, the breakfast-room, and the duke's and duchess's apartments; the east, the vestibule, servants' offices, &c.; and the north, the French bed-rooms and various

other chambers. Most of the apartments are embellished with fine paintings, among which portraits form a very prominent feature. The gallery, in which most of them are placed, is one hundred and eleven feet long, seventeen wide, and fifteen high.

The saloon, drawing, and dining-rooms, which are of suitable dimensions for such a mansion, are adorned with capital paintings by eminent masters of the foreign schools.

The Library, fifty feet long and twenty-four and a half wide, is stored with a fine collection of books, and over the shelves are portraits of the most eminent painters. Those of Titian, Rembrandt, Tintoretto, David Teniers the younger, Rubens, Murillo, Frank Hals, Jan Steen, Sir Godfrey Kneller, and John Kupetzki, are said to have been painted by the artists themselves whose names they respectively bear.

The Sculpture Gallery, built in 1789, from the designs of Henry Holland, was originally intended for a green-house, and was converted to its present use, and its floor inlaid with Devonshire marble, in 1820. It is one hundred and thirty feet in length, and twenty-two feet seven inches high. The valuable collection of marbles contained in this gallery has been described in a splendid volume, accompanied with outline engravings, from drawings by Henry Corbould. The text is from the pen of the present Duke of Bedford, at whose expense the work was printed for private distribution.

The foundation of the Temple of Liberty was laid by Francis Duke of Bedford a short time before his death, and it was completed by his brother, the pre-

50 A.

50 A

WOBURN ABBEY,

SEAT OF THE DUKE OF BEDFORD.

sent duke. Its portico is copied from a beautiful little Ionic temple of Ceres, once standing on the banks of the Ilissus, and delineated in Stuart's *Remains of Athens.* When the building was finished, it received the bust of Charles James Fox, by Nollekens, supported on a pedestal of Carrara marble, on which is a poetical inscription by Georgiana Duchess of Devonshire.

Around the walls of the interior cell of the temple are marble busts, by Nollekens, of some of the most intimate friends of this eminent statesman; viz. Earl Grey, Earl of Lauderdale, Lord Robert Spencer, Lord Holland, General Fitzpatrick, and Mr. Hare.

The Temple of the Graces was erected in 1818 from designs by Mr Jeffry Wyatt. In the centre of it is placed the exquisitely beautiful group of the three Graces, executed for the Duke of Bedford by Canova. In the vestibule are two niches, containing beautiful little statues, one representing Lady Georgiana Elizabeth Russell, eldest daughter of the Duke of Bedford, sculptured at Rome by Thorwaldsen, when she was four years old; and the other, Lady Louisa Jane, his grace's second daughter, the work of Chantrey, who has represented her at the moment when she has taken up a favourite dove, and is pressing it to her bosom.

The late and present owner of Woburn have been distinguished by their zeal for the promotion of the science of agriculture; and for many years an annual sheep-shearing was held here, which was generally attended by three or four hundred persons, mostly of the highest rank, or eminent as farmers. The meeting lasted three or four days, during

which various experiments were made, and considerable premiums were devoted to the encouragement of improvements in agriculture. With this general attention to the furtherance of the science, it is not wonderful that his grace's farm should be peculiarly deserving of the attention of all who feel interested in its advancement. Every ingenious contrivance to shorten labour, and every invention to facilitate useful operations, are here concentrated. The farmyard is replete with conveniences: it contains barns, stables, fatting-houses, mills, and machinery for bruising malt and cutting chaff for fodder. The water which works the latter is conveyed thither by pipes from ponds situated on the adjoining eminences.

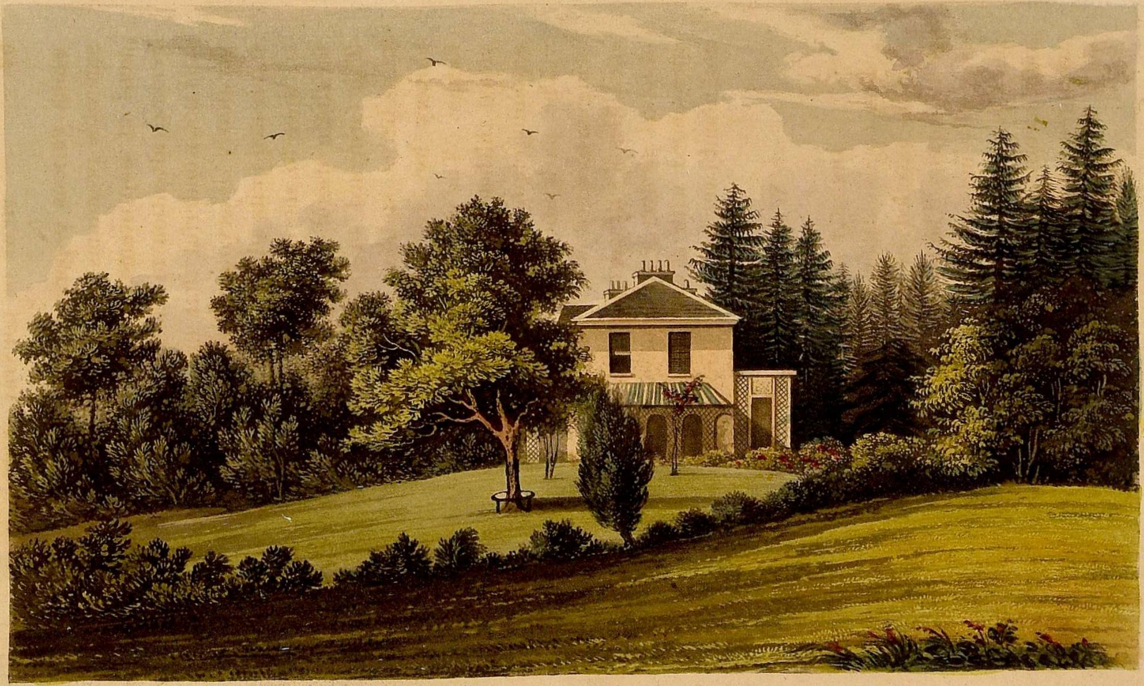
The park abounds with wood, and the ground, being diversified with bold swells and pleasing inequalities of surface, affords many delightful prospects of forest scenery. It is well stocked with deer, and surrounded with a brick wall eight feet in height, and about twelve miles in circumference.

WHITMORE-LODGE,

BERKSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF ROBERT MANGLES, ESQ.

For combinations of the picturesque, this little villa is excelled by few mansions of much higher pretensions. The house commands a very extensive view of Windsor Forest; and the grounds are tastefully laid out, and adorned with the choicest shrubs and flowers. Though upon a small scale, yet its arrangements, internal and external, render this place a most delightful residence.



W. Delamotte Junr. delt.

WHITMORE LODGE,

THE SEAT OF ROBT. MANGLES, ESQ.

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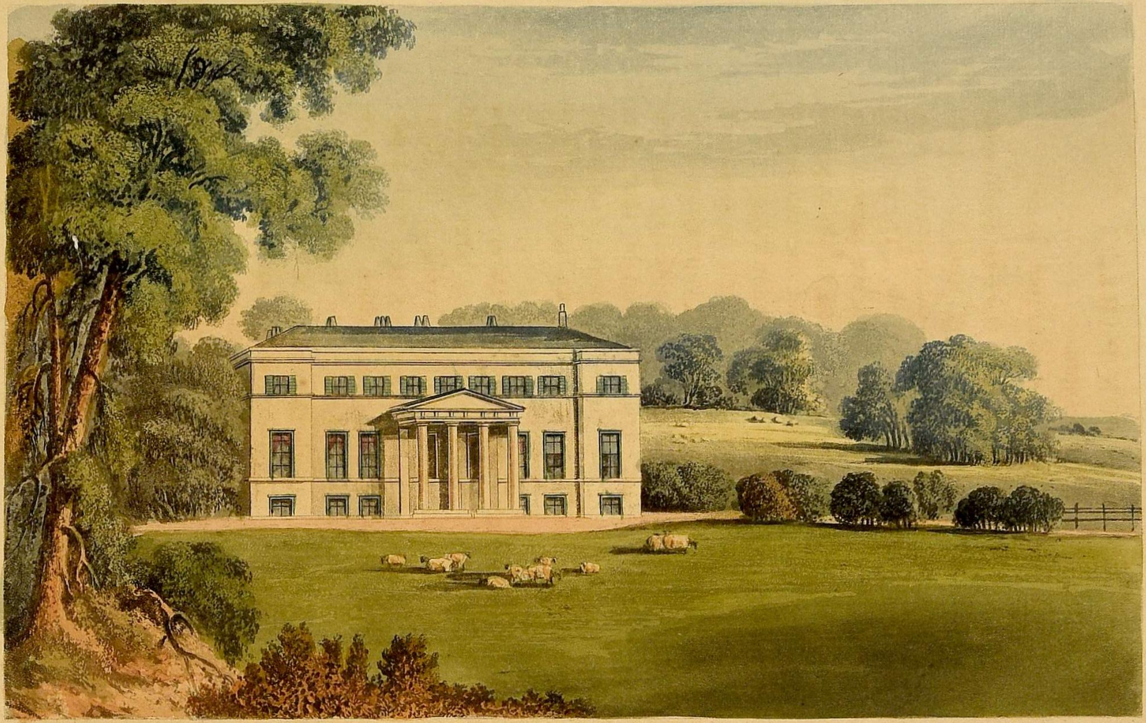
Pl. 19. Vol. II.



Hewetson del.^t

STRATTON PARK,

THE SEAT OF SIR THO.^S BARING, BAR.^T

STRATTON-PARK,

HAMPSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF SIR THOMAS BARING, BART.

THIS mansion was erected by the late Sir Francis Baring. It stands near the road from London to Southampton, on the side of an extensive demesne, well wooded and stocked with deer. The grounds are laid out with much taste, and the present proprietor is planting and daily adding to the improvements of the place. His love and encouragement of the fine arts are universally acknowledged. The splendid collection of pictures which he possesses is a proof of his refined taste. It is pleasing to see a man of his political exertions, devoted to the welfare of his country, not unmindful of that more domestic virtue, the encouragement of superior genius, which always meets support from his liberality.

The building, from designs by Darer, contains a great number of apartments, with a large hall and magnificent staircase, and is convenient in all its arrangements. The front is decorated with a portico of the Doric order, under which the carriage-way passes. In front of the house, inclosed in thick clumps of trees, stands the church of East Stratton, its towers and pinnacles rising above the foliage. A little to the left stands, embosomed in trees, a cottage in the old English style of architecture; and the view in every direction is picturesque and pleasing.

The collection of pictures contains splendid specimens of art, chiefly of the French, Spanish, and Italian, schools, and also by the best English masters.

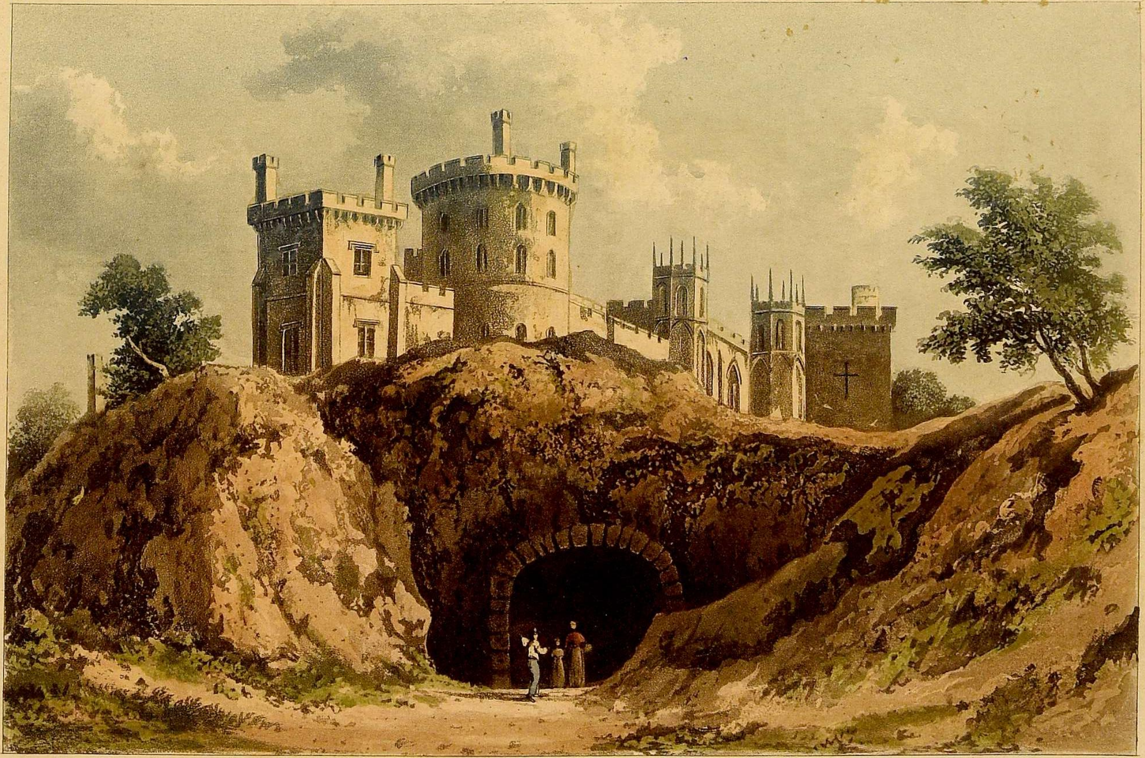
BELVOIR CASTLE,

LEICESTERSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF THE DUKE OF RUTLAND.

THIS castle is situated so near to the borders of the counties of Leicester and Lincoln, that it seems doubtful in which of the two it is really situated. The authors of the *Magna Britannia* assert, that it stands in the latter; but we have followed the usual opinion, which places it in the former.

The foundations of Belvoir Castle are nearly coeval with the Norman conquest: it was built by Robert de Todenei, a noble Norman, standard-bearer to William the Conqueror, who gave him thirty-two manors in Lincolnshire, and this among the rest. He made Belvoir Castle the chief seat of his barony, and erected near it, according to the devotion of those times, a priory for monks, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, making it a cell to the abbey of St. Alban in Hertfordshire, and endowing it with lands and tithes. His son changed his name to De Albini, and in his family the property continued till the reign of Henry III. when it devolved on Robert de Roos, a powerful baron, by marriage with the heiress of William de Albini, the fourth of that name. In the time of Henry VI. Thomas Lord Roos espoused the cause of the king against the house of York; in consequence of which Lord Hastings, having made himself master of this castle, almost demolished it; and, on the attainder of the legitimate owner, begged it of King Edward IV. with large possessions. After the final triumph of the house of Lancaster in the accession of Henry VII.



W. Westall del.t

BELVOIR CASTLE.

THE SEAT OF HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF RUTLAND. K.G.

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to the throne, Edmund Lord Roos, the son of Thomas above mentioned, recovered the estates of his ancestors, which, as he died without issue, were carried by the marriage of his eldest sister to the family of Manners, in the possession of which Belvoir Castle has ever since remained.

In the 17th of Henry VIII. Thomas Manners, Lord Roos, was created Earl of Rutland. This nobleman rebuilt the castle, which had lain in ruins from the time of the civil wars between the houses of York and Lancaster. The second earl also devoted much of his attention to its improvement, and greatly extended the buildings, which continued to be the chief residence of the Rutland family, till, in the first year of the civil war between Charles I. and the Parliament, when the then earl espoused the cause of the latter, the castle was surprised by the king's forces. During the subsequent hostilities it was occasionally garrisoned by each party, and materially suffered from both. After the restoration of Charles II. the same earl was reinstated in his possessions, and repaired the castle. His son, created by Queen Anne Marquis of Granby and Duke of Rutland, being very wealthy, kept up here the old English hospitality, residing almost entirely at Belvoir, and not visiting London for many years before his death.

Great alterations were made in this magnificent pile by the present noble proprietor, and a new arrangement was given to the interior, chiefly under the direction of the late Mr. Wyatt, at an expense of two hundred thousand pounds; but, in 1816, while the improvements were in progress, a great part of

this splendid seat was destroyed by fire. The grand staircase and the picture-gallery, with most of the very fine family pictures, were consumed. The flames had nearly reached the Regent's Gallery, which is one hundred and twenty-seven feet long, and filled with the choicest productions of art; but that noble apartment was fortunately saved. The loss sustained by this calamity was estimated at one hundred and twenty thousand pounds. The damage done to the building has since been restored, and in such a style as to surpass its former appearance in beauty, uniformity, and correctness of architectural decoration.

Situated on the summit of a lofty hill, overlooking a beautiful valley, whence originated its name, Belvoir Castle forms a noble and majestic object. Its chief strong-hold is the circular tower in the centre of the View, called Staunton Tower. The adjacent manor of Staunton is held by the family of the same name by tenure of castleguard, which anciently required them to appear with soldiers for the defence of this post in case of danger, or when summoned by the lord of the castle. It has been customary, whenever any member of the royal family has honoured Belvoir Castle with his presence, for the chief of the Staunton family to appear personally, and to present the key of this tower to the royal visiter. Accordingly, in January 1814, when his present Majesty, then Prince Regent, visited this place, the gold key of Staunton Tower was delivered to the illustrious guest soon after his arrival, on a cushion of velvet, by the Rev. Dr. Staunton. His Royal Highness was received with a salute from cannon on the battlements

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F. W. L. Stockdale. del.t

SELSDON,
THE SEAT OF G. SMITH, ESQ. M.P.

of the castle, and the royal standard was displayed on this tower.

During his stay his Royal Highness, with the Duke of York, stood sponsor to the eldest son of the noble owner of the castle; and before he left it he named one of the towers the *Regent Tower*, in commemoration of this visit.

SELSDON,

SURREY,

THE SEAT OF GEORGE SMITH, ESQ. M.P.

There are few counties in England containing so many noblemen's and gentlemen's seats as Surrey, which may in some measure have been occasioned by many of the opulent bankers and merchants being induced to select the most agreeable places in the vicinity of the metropolis as a retreat from the fatigues of business. In this respect the proprietor of this truly desirable estate has been extremely fortunate, as there are few places more beautifully situated; the mansion being only about thirteen miles from town, and the road, leading through the village of Streatham and the ancient town of Croydon, forming one of the most agreeable rides imaginable.

Since this estate was purchased of Mr. Coles, the eminent India broker, in 1810, the mansion has undergone considerable improvement, and is now one of the most splendid seats in the county. The great rage, however, which has prevailed of late years for the Gothic style of architecture is here strongly

manifested; and the proprietor has shown superior taste in the selection of the most chaste specimens of that style, and also in the very splendid manner in which the interior is fitted up. Here are many works of art, especially a most spendid collection of choice prints, particularly deserving of attention.

Selsdon is situated in the parish of Sandersted, three miles from Croydon: the grounds round the mansion are richly wooded.

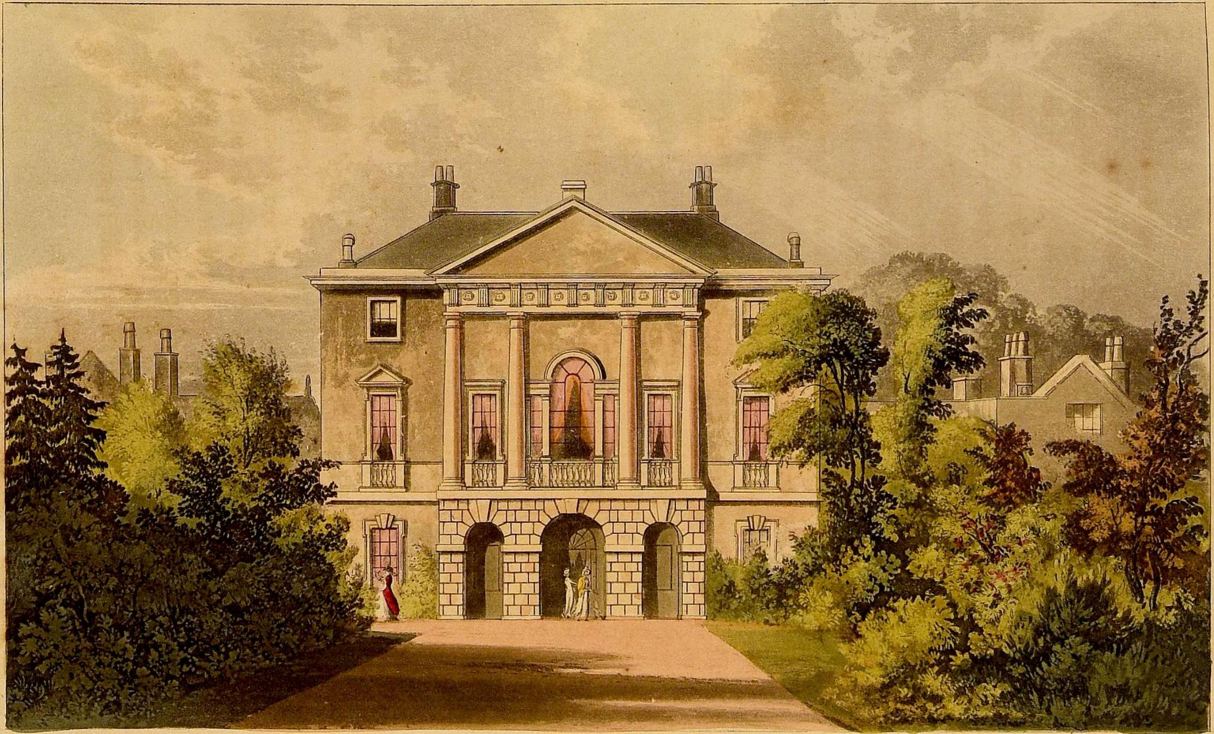
Mr. George Smith is an eminent banker, a director of the East India Company, and representative in Parliament for Wendover.

THE NEW LODGE, RICHMOND PARK,

SURREY,

THE SEAT OF VISCOUNT SIDMOUTH.

Richmond Park, formerly called the Great or the New Park, to distinguish it from that made near the Green, was made by Charles I. who was extremely partial to the sports of the chace, and was very desirous of having a large park well stocked with red and fallow deer in the neighbourhood of his two palaces, Richmond and Hampton-Court. Within the space which was marked out for the purpose, the king had large wastes and woods of his own; but as some parishes had commons, and many private persons had houses and lands intermixed, he found it a work of some difficulty; for, though he offered more than the value of the several estates, and many of the owners consented to part with their lands to oblige



J. Gendall del.^t

THE NEW LODGE, RICHMOND PARK.

THE SEAT OF VISCOUNT SIDMOUTH.

58A

his Majesty, yet others could not be prevailed on to alienate their property on any terms. The king being very urgent, it made a great clamour, and the outcry was, that he was going to take away the estates of his subjects at his own pleasure. Under these circumstances, Bishop Laud and Lord Cottington advised his Majesty to desist from a measure which threatened to be so unpopular and so expensive, as it was intended to surround the park with a brick wall. The king, however, was not to be dissuaded, having already ordered the bricks to be burnt, and began the wall on his own estate. This is Lord Clarendon's account. It is to be presumed that the owners of the lands at last complied, for the park appears to have been completed, and Jerome Earl of Portland made the first ranger in 1638.

On the 30th June, 1649, the House of Commons voted that the New Park at Richmond should be given to the city of London, and to their successors for ever; and the attorney-general was ordered to make out a grant to that effect, to pass the great seal. An act of Parliament for confirming it to the city passed on the 17th of July. On the 18th of June, 1659, it was referred to a committee, to treat with the city about the exchange of Greenwich for the New Park.

At the Restoration, the park reverted to the crown, and Sir Daniel Harvey was appointed ranger. Queen Anne granted the rangership to the Earl of Rochester for three lives. After his death, his successor, who, upon the extinction of the elder branch of the Hydes, became Earl of Clarendon, joined with his son, Lord Cornbury, and sold the grant and re-

mainder for £5000 to George I. who granted it to Robert, the second Earl of Orford, then Lord Walpole. His father, Sir Robert Walpole, spent much of his leisure time in the park, where he indulged himself with his favourite exercise of hunting, and paid nobly for his amusement by building the Great Lodge, and making other improvements in the park, at the expense of £14,000. After the death of the Earl of Orford, the Princess Amelia was appointed ranger. While in her hands, a lawsuit was commenced relative to the right of a footway through the park, which was tried at the assizes at Kingston in April 1758, when the right was established; in consequence of which decision ladder-gates were put up at some of the entrances. The Princess Amelia having surrendered her interest in the rangership, it was granted by his late Majesty to the Earl of Bute.

Richmond Park is eight miles in circumference, and contains two thousand two hundred and fifty-three acres, of which scarcely one hundred are in Richmond parish: there are six hundred and fifty acres in Mortlake, two hundred and sixty-five in Petersham, two hundred and thirty in Putney, and about one thousand in Kingston.

Nature has disposed the ground of this park to great advantage, and diversified it with a pleasing variety of hill and vale: it is ornamented also with a great number of very fine oaks and other plantations.

The New or Stone Lodge was built by command of George I. after a design by the Earl of Pembroke, as a place of refreshment after the fatigues of the chace. This lodge, after being fitted up by the di-

J. Gendall del.t

HOLLY GROVE HOUSE.

THE SEAT OF THEODORE HENRY BROADHEAD, ESQ.

rection of his late Majesty, was, upwards of twenty years ago, given by him for life, together with sixty acres of land around it, to the Right Hon. Henry Addington, now Viscount Sidmouth, whose conduct in various important official stations procured him the particular confidence and favour of our good old king.

HOLLY-GROVE-HOUSE,

BERKSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF THEODORE HENRY BROADHEAD, ESQ.

THE first conveyance of this beautiful spot is an indenture made in the year 1697, between William Taylor, of Winkfield, and John Avis, of Old Windsor: it was for a cottage, and a small portion of land attached to it. In the year 1772, it was purchased by Captain John Deacon, of the first regiment of foot-guards, and equerry to the Duke of Cumberland. The grounds have been enlarged by subsequent grants, all of which are entered at the court of attachment for Windsor Forest. In 1783, we find Sir Andrew Snape Hammond the proprietor, who sold it to Samuel Johnson, Esq. It was again sold, in 1791, to Henry Griffiths, Esq. In the following year it was transferred to Miss Jennings, and was disposed of by the Rose family to Spencer Mackay, Esq., of whom it was purchased in 1808, by Theodore Henry Broadhead, Esq., father of the present proprietor.

The house is of brick, and the principal front, as shewn in the annexed view, is enlivened with pilasters of stucco. The interior contains some handsome apartments. The principal library is a mag-

nificent room, thirty-one feet by twenty-four, containing a valuable collection of books. Among many pictures is a superb work of Guercino, the Grecian Daughter.

The entire extent of ground is about forty-five acres, the whole within a very beautiful part of the Forest, and commanding all its rides and drives. The principal part was granted by George III., to the Right Hon. George Rose during Miss Jennings's residence at the place, about twenty years since. The estate is charged with the repair of part of the highway leading from a little beyond the house in the parish of Old Windsor, to the junction of the road with the parish of New Windsor; a condition entered into by Mr. Griffiths on being permitted to inclose a portion of the forest.

The place is indebted to Miss Jennings for the present delightful arrangement of the gardens and grounds. Her fine taste induced her to call in the assistance of Repton, under whose direction the flower-garden was created. It is beautiful and sequestered, and in it is a grapery, with green-houses and alcoves. The serpentine walk that leads to it winds round the grounds, at intervals commanding charming views of the surrounding country; while the area is gay and fragrant with flowers, and rich in plants of rarity and beauty. From both fronts the house commands varied and extensive views over the Forest, the Great Park, the castle, and the town of Windsor, with a fine stretch of distant country.

J. Gendall del.^t

BICTON,

SEAT OF THE RIGHT HON^BLE LORD ROLLE.

G3A

BICTON,

DEVONSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF LORD ROLLE.

Bicton is situated in the hundred of East Budleigh, and about three miles from Sidmouth, in Devonshire. This manor was held in demesne by the king's door-keeper, William Janitor, at the time of taking the Domesday survey; and he is said to have held it by the service of keeping the king's gaol for the county of Devon. In his family it continued for about three generations. It afterwards became the property of Ralph Balistarius, or Le Balister (the cross-bow-bearer), who occupied it in 1229. His posterity, by the name of Alabaster, were in the possession of Bicton for five generations, when it passed by successive female heirs to the families of Sacheville, or Sackville, and Copleston. Sir Robert Dennis purchased it of the Coplestons, rebuilt the old mansion, and inclosed the deer-park, which is now one of the finest in the county. Sir Thomas Dennis, the son of Sir Robert, gave it to his eldest daughter Ann, who became the wife of Sir Henry Rolle, ancestor of the present noble proprietor. The county gaol was continued here, under the original tenure, up to the year 1518, when it was removed to Exeter; but it was not until the year 1787 that the Lord of Bicton was exonerated from its superintendence.

Bicton possesses every thing within itself in point of scenery; a delightful diversity of ground, that gives every variety that can be wished for to the fine woods which adorn the various levels, particularly as seen from the mansion, whence the delightful little village of Otterton, with its white church, the obelisk, and the lovely peep between the hills embracing the small watering-place of Salterton, with the ocean, taken altogether, form one of the completest and sweetest scenes imagination can picture to itself, combined as it is with a fine stream of water that falls in cascades through the park; the majestic forms of the venerable trees, which for size are rarely surpassed; and the immense herd of deer that are seen bounding from hill to hill.

The carriage-entrance is by a plain Gothic lodge, whence the drive leads by an inner lodge of a rustic character, and over a pretty bridge that crosses the sheet of water; but there is a private entrance by a neat cottage-lodge, through a fine avenue of beech and ash, that winds round by the obelisk, which is a fine object as seen from most parts of the grounds. Among the out-door embellishments, is a Hermitage constructed under the direction of Lady Rolle: its situation is admirable, and for fitness, combined with elegance and usefulness, as a summer-seat (being by the water, and surrounded by superb trees), it is most perfect.

At a short distance from the hermitage, by the water, is an extraordinary rustic seat formed out of the remains of a beech-tree: a brass plate is fixed on the side, with the following inscription.

"The remains of a large beech-tree, blown down in Bicton park, A.D. M.DCCC.VI. It was under its wide-spreading branches, extending to the circumference of 309 feet, that the first encamped volunteers in England, consisting of ,693 rank and file, partook of a dinner provided for them by their colonel, the Right Hon. John Lord Rolle, the 13th October, M.DCCC.IV."

The circumference of the trunk alone measures twenty-eight feet.

Proceeding by the water, which assumes the character of a lake, you cross it through a grotto which forms a sort of barrier to the stream, suffering it to escape over rough stones into the lake beneath, which has a pleasing effect, the whole being overhung with fine trees. The ground now swells abruptly to the mansion, which is plain but large, composed of a bold centre, with a portico, flanked with two extensive wings. The hall of entrance embraces the entire depth of the building, terminated by columns and a double staircase: the intercolumniations are adorned by a number of statues. To the left of the hall is a library, occupying a portion of the principal front, and containing a choice collection of books, in rich old bookcases, surmounted with various busts. Over the mantel-piece are a fine three-quarter family portrait, and a series of beautiful miniature landscapes. Recrossing the hall, over against the library is a small dining-room, containing portraits of Lord and Lady Rolle, by Reynolds of Bayswater, with some fine whole-lengths of King William and Queen Mary. Ascending the staircase, the gallery or landing-place has a fine effect, with the immense window in the rear, spreading light

around on the rich Ionic columns and pilasters, with the niches containing large bronze figures, which flank the various entrances to the suite of state-apartments. The principal or centre entrance leads to the breakfast-room, on entering which, the works of art combined with nature seem striving for pre-eminence; three large circular windows laying open the park scene, rich in undulating forms and woods, with the distant sea, flanked by the Sidmouth hills to the left and wood to the right. This room is richly ornamented with hangings and superb pieces of furniture, as inlaid cabinets, chandeliers, vases, &c. but the chief attractions are the collection of paintings by which it is adorned.

To the left of this room is the dining-room, a handsomely proportioned apartment, with a bold and irregular cornice, combining the lion's head in basso-relievo. From an eagle in the centre is suspended a fine glass chandelier: but what commands attention in this room are paintings by Caravaggio, the Snyders, Fytt, and Le Brun.

Recrossing the dining-room, you enter the breakfast-room, richly fitted up in crimson, purple, and gold, containing inlaid cabinets, screens, and tables, inlaid in ivory. The pictures in this room deserve particular notice.

The drawing-room is connected with a dressing-room, stored with the works of various masters.

Recrossing the landing-place, a small elliptical sitting-room of Lady Rolle's deserves particular mention: it is richly fitted up, and contains many articles of interest. The views from it are of the

Stockdale del.^t

POLTIMORES,

SEAT OF SIR GEORGE WARWICK BAMFYLDE, Bar.^t

sweetest kind; and, from the position of some large mirrors, the out-door splendour is brought within.

The out-door offices, stables, &c. are extensive as well as the gardens.

POLTIMORE-HOUSE,

DEVONSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF SIR GEORGE WARWICK BAMFYLDE, BART.

This mansion derives its name from the family of the Poltimores, who were possessors of considerable property in Devonshire at a very early period, and is situated in a very romantic and fertile part of the county, about three miles from Exeter. According to Risdon, this estate was disposed of in the reign of Edward I., by Sir Richard Poltimore (the last male branch of that family who inherited a title) to William Pointington, canon of the cathedral of Exeter, from whom it descended by marriage to the Bamfyldes; and, at the demise of the late Sir Charles Bamfylde, a few years since, devolved to his son, the present possessor.

Poltimore-House is a large structure, not remarkable for architectural grandeur; but, standing in a richly wooded park, well stocked with deer, it has rather an interesting appearance. The approach to the house on the west side is formed through a beautiful avenue of lime-trees, the shady branches of which in the summer season afford an agreeable promenade sheltered from the rays of the sun.

Adjoining this delightful spot is the little village church, an ancient fabric, containing a sumptuous monument for an early member of the Bamfylde family. On the north side of the church is a small alms-house, which was built and endowed by the same family, whose arms are carved over the porch.

ST. MARGARET'S,

MIDDLESEX,

THE SEAT OF THE EARL OF CASSILLIS.

THIS beautiful villa, the South Front of which is represented in the first Engraving, is situated on the banks of the Thames, in the parish of Twickenham. It bore at one time the name of Isleworth Park, and at another that of the New Park of Richmond. The old house belonged successively to the Countess of Charleville, Lord Muncaster, and the Duchess of Manchester. The whole property, with what was called Twickenham Park, was purchased by Francis Gosling, Esq. who added a portion of the park to the grounds of St. Margaret's. This has been rendered classic ground by the residence of Sir Francis Bacon, who here passed many of his happiest days: here he pursued his first studies in the great book of Nature. Here imagination may picture to itself the great man making the meads and neighbouring glades his study, far from the scenes of bustle and ambition that surrounded him in maturer life. Here he had the honour of entertaining Queen Elizabeth;

J. Gendall del.t

St. MARGARETS,
(View from the Thames)
SEAT OF THE EARL OF CASSILLIS.

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and it was here that he had hopes of forming a mineralogical society, as appears from a paper in the British Museum, wherein he observes :—" Let Twitnam Park, which I sold in my younger days, be purchased, if possible, for a residence for such deserving persons to study in, since I experimentally found the situation of that place much convenient for the trial of my philosophical conclusions, expressed in a paper sealed to the trust, which I myself had put in practice, and settled the same by act of Parliament, if the vicissitudes of fortune had not intervened and prevented me."

This society he intended to be for the express purpose of exploring abandoned mineral works.

After Sir Francis sold the estate of Twickenham, we find that it passed through various hands, and at last became the property of Lucy, the admired but extravagant wife of Edward Earl of Bedford. She gave it, in 1618, to Sir William Harrington, who sold it to John Lord Berkeley of Stratton. It was purchased, in the year 1743, by Algernon Earl of Mountrath, from whom it passed to Sir William Abdy. The estate being divided into lots, and put up to sale, the greater part was purchased by Francis Gosling, Esq., who pulled down the old mansion in Twickenham Park, and attached a considerable portion of the grounds to St. Margaret's, as has been before stated: but this beautiful villa, as it now stands, owes its present splendour and delightful arrangement, both in the house and grounds, to the noble proprietor, who has displayed great judgment in forming out of old buildings the very delightful villa that now constitutes the chief

ornament of Twickenham Park, and of the view down the river from Richmond, from which it is seen to great advantage.

In the interior arrangement, fitting-up, and combination of furniture, it vies in elegance with any thing of the kind in the kingdom. In fact, it is so exquisite and chaste, that, in admiring the suite of apartments, we forget the splendour that pervades them. The Dining-Room occupies the east wing, extending along the south front: it is a fine room, lofty, and finished with a dome, from which is suspended a beautiful chandelier. Several fine pictures, by the old masters, ornament this apartment, as well as the charming ante-room which connects the suite of apartments. The Drawing-Room also contains some fine paintings; and connected with it is a boudoir of singular beauty.

The Drawing-Room occupies the west wing, commanding views over the Thames to the south; while the windows to the west reach down to the ground, laying the apartment open to the verandah and pleasure-grounds, which form a fine fore-ground to the sweetest view. The silvery Thames in all its beauty is seen issuing from beneath Richmond-bridge, which is surmounted by the far-famed Richmond Hill, gemmed with villas rising from luxuriant woods up to the very top. The middle distance is composed of delightful meadows of the richest verdure, embellished with some fine trees; while the other side of the river is ornamented with villas. These, combined with the pleasure-boats and craft that are continually gliding along the polished surface of the Thames, form a scene seldom rivalled.

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J. Gendall del.t

St. MARGARETS,
(Entrance Front.)
SEAT OF THE EARL OF CASSILLIS.

A terrace-walk extends along the water to a pleasing octagon pavilion at the extremity of the grounds, from which the views are equally delightful. Isleworth, with its ivied church, backed by the rich woods of Sion, appears to great advantage from this spot. From this walk the home scene is full of interest, commanding a sweet lawn, embellished with an elegant green-house to the right, while to the left the out-houses are formed into the semblance of a chapel, surmounted with a picturesque tower.

The lawn is divided by a bridge of considerable magnitude, overgrown with ivy, which has all the appearance of bold Gothic ruins; while through the arches is seen a fine avenue of limes of considerable length. The whole has a sequestered and monastic appearance, that well accords with its name of St. Margaret, which seems to imply that the spot has been dedicated to religion.

The walks and drives over the bridge extend to the Entrance Front, which is the subject of the second view. It is equally pleasing with the South Front. A colonnade extends from side to side, and is so connected with a very delightful green-house as to form a pleasing and dry walk, when the weather prevents out-door exercises. This green-house is most judiciously arranged, not only affording a perpetual spring walk, but being an elegant screen to the offices.

The kitchen-gardens are extensive, well walled, and abounding in fruit-trees, possessing also a handsome range of hot-houses and pine-pits.

CLOWANCE,

CORNWALL,

THE SEAT OF SIR JOHN ST. AUBYN, BART.

Clowance, which is considered as one of the most valuable estates in the county of Cornwall, and has belonged to the St. Aubyn family since the reign of Richard II. is situated about five miles north of Helston, and three from Redruth. The mansion, surrounded by an extensive and richly wooded park, is an ancient pile of building, and, excepting the south front, represented in the engraving, is an incongruous mixture of several styles of architecture. The principal attraction, however, of this place consists in the many works of art which it contains, and among which are several fine family portraits by Sir Peter Lely and other eminent masters, in the highest state of preservation. In the drawing-room is a very striking likeness of Sir John St. Aubyn, Bart. by Opie, the celebrated Cornish artist. Here is also a remarkably fine collection of rare old prints, which has lately been considerably augmented by many choice specimens purchased by Sir John during his residence on the continent.

The eye is highly gratified by the beauty of the several plantations in the park, which, being formed in the centre of the mining district of the county, strikingly contrasts with its barren aspect. In the park is also a fine piece of water, which tends considerably to improve the scene.

Stockdale del.^t

CLOWANCE,

THE SEAT OF SIR JOHN ST AUBYN BART.

72 A

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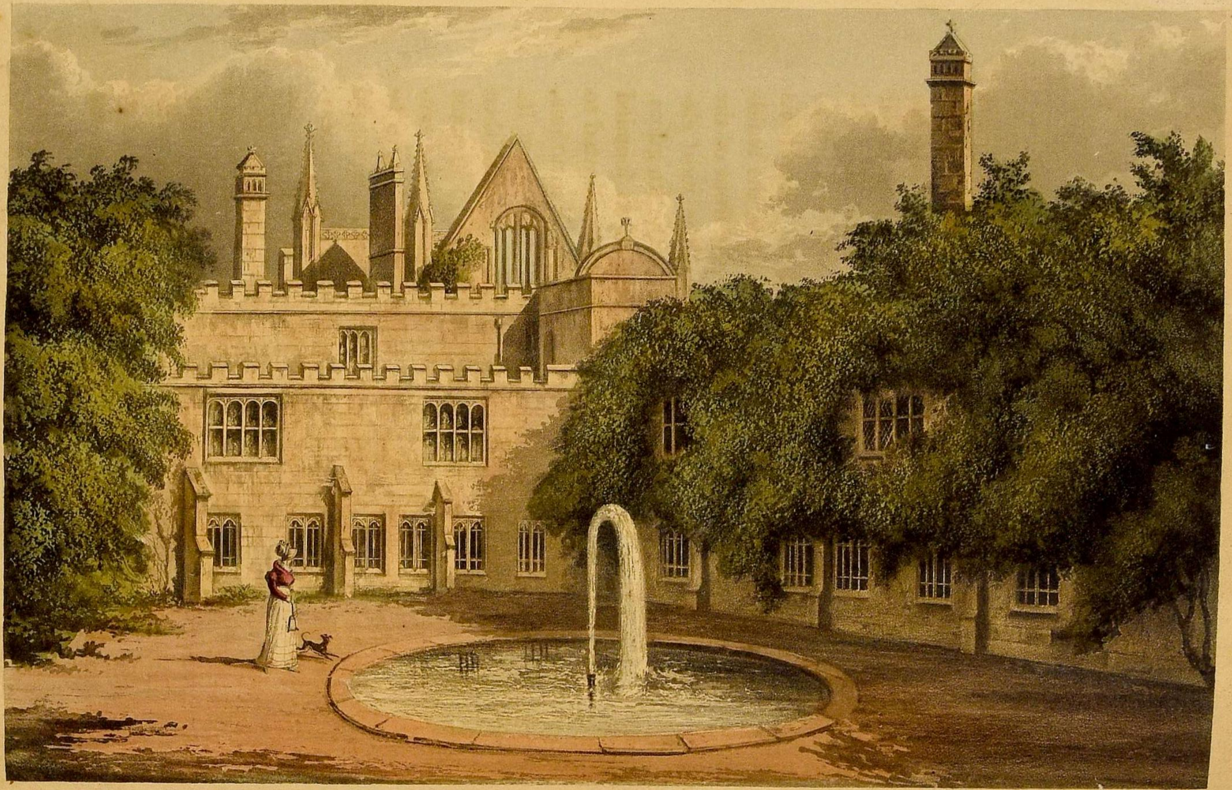

NEWSTEAD ABBEY,

THE SEAT OF LIEUT. COL. WILDMAN.

NEWSTEAD ABBEY,

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF LIEUTENANT-COLONEL WILDMAN.

Among the numerous views in these volumes, it is presumed that few will be more acceptable than that presented in the accompanying engraving. As the property and residence of the late Lord Byron, it has not only become more interesting on that account, but as a relic of antiquity it is entitled to particular attention. Although great alterations have been made in the conventual part of the building, the existing remains (especially the front of the abbey church) prove that it was one of the most elegant and chaste Gothic structures in the kingdom.

Newstead Abbey appears to have been founded in the year 1170, by Henry II. It was dedicated to St. Augustine; but, like other religious institutions, was dissolved in the reign of Henry VIII., when its annual revenues were valued at £229. It was then granted by the crown to Sir John Byron, lieutenant of Sherwood Forest, who converted part of the conventual buildings into a residence; but it is to be lamented that the abbey church, the most beautiful part of them, was suffered to go entirely to decay. Newstead Abbey continued the property of the Byrons till a few years since, when the late noble bard sold the estate, according to report, with a view to assist the Greek cause, to Lieutenant-Colonel Wildman, who was one of the aides-de-camp to the Marquis of Anglesea. It is fortunate that the property has fallen into the hands of a gentleman pos-

sessing much taste, and who takes great pleasure in preserving every relic of antiquity connected with it. In the alterations which are now in progress, with a view to render Newstead Abbey a more comfortable and spacious residence, a close resemblance to the style of the other part of the building is preserved, and, when completed, it will have a majestic and beautiful appearance.

The principal entrance, or hall, was formerly the crypt, the arches of which are extremely fine: it is connected with the cloisters which lead to the principal apartments. The inner court, with its Gothic windows, over part of which luxuriant ivy is entwined, has a grand effect. The ancient chapel, which is connected with the cloisters, has been completely repaired, and, although it has a sombre effect, cannot fail to excite the most lively emotions. Over the cloisters is a spacious gallery, which leads to the drawing-room and other apartments: they contain a few valuable paintings and other works of art, besides some articles which belonged to the late Lord Byron.

It appears from one of his earliest poems, that not only the abbey itself was much neglected by his ancestors, but the grounds also:

"Through thy battlements, Newstead, the hollow winds whistle;
Thou, the hall of my fathers, art gone to decay;
In thy once-smiling gardens the hemlock and thistle
Now choke up the roses that bloom'd in the way."

Nothing can exceed the fine state of cultivation into which the gardens have since been brought. In the centre of them is a beautiful fish-pond, with raised borders around it, planted with the most

SHAVINGTON HALL,
Seat of the Earl of Kilmorey.

choice shrubs: here is also the tomb erected by the late Lord Byron as a memorial of his favourite Newfoundland dog, which makes a conspicuous appearance. It is impossible to conceive the many beautiful scenes which here present themselves, with occasional glimpses of the mansion.

In the front of the abbey is a very spacious lake, whose banks are crowned with exceedingly fine plantations, from which rises a noble Gothic castellated tower.

Newstead Abbey is situated in a beautiful romantic valley, about nine miles from Nottingham, and five from Mansfield. The road to it is formed through extensive wild plantations, which abound with game.

SHAVINGTON OR SHENTON HALL,

SHROPSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF THE EARL OF KILMOREY.

THE county of Shropshire, the want of a complete history of which has been severely felt, abounds in seats of noblemen and gentlemen, possessing much interest on account of their antiquity. Shavington, or Shenton, Hall is one of the most spacious and ancient mansions in the county, and appears to have belonged to the Earls of Kilmorey many years prior to the completion of Camden's Survey. It is situated in the northern part of the county, which borders upon Cheshire, about three miles from the town of Drayton. It is a brick edifice, with quadrangular towers at each corner, like most buildings of its age, and has a heavy appearance: yet, with

the surrounding woods and plantations, it forms a pleasing contrast, especially as the general aspect of this county has been much altered by the numerous potteries and other works.

The noble proprietor of this mansion has another beautiful estate in Ireland, from which he derives his title: his son and heir is Viscount Newry.

CAEN-WOOD,

MIDDLESEX,

THE SEAT OF THE EARL OF MANSFIELD.

Within the last century the neighbourhood of the metropolis has been considerably improved by the erection of a great variety of pleasing and elegant mansions, and many spots, which were, even from their dreariness, considered dangerous, have now assumed quite a different character. The advantages attending the improvements which have taken place, especially in the formation of new roads and canals, are incalculable.

Few spots in the immediate vicinity of town possess greater attractions than Hampstead or Highgate; the heath of the former being, from its numerous excavations and declivities, remarkably picturesque. The rising ground upon which those places are built is considered more healthy than any other so near London.

Caen-Wood House is a very elegant structure, situated but a short distance to the north of Hampstead, in a small but richly wooded park, embellished with fine plantations and water. The present man-

F. W. Stockdale del.t

CAEN WOOD.

THE SEAT OF EARL MANSFIELD.

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sion was erected by the late Earl of Mansfield, and the design being chiefly of the Ionic order, the building has a very chaste appearance. The entrance is on the western side, but the Southern Front, which is represented in the engraving, commands a fine prospect of the metropolis and surrounding country. On each side extends a wing, with an entablature supported by three-quarter columns; one of these forms the library, and the other a conservatory. The interior is extremely imposing; the proportions of the several apartments and their numerous embellishments being allowed to surpass those of a similar nature in most of the seats of other noblemen. The music-room is particularly deserving of attention; its compartments, painted by Julius Ibbetson, display some interesting views in North Wales. The library also is very handsome, and contains a portrait of the first Earl of Mansfield, by Martin.

Mr. Brayley, speaking of Caen-Wood, justly observes, "that the place is rich in circumstances of natural beauty; the undulations are gentle, yet sheltering; and that deep mass of woodland, which imparts a name to the domain, is an adjunct of the picturesque rarely found in the close vicinage of the metropolis. Art has been largely employed to complete the display, but all her operations have been guided by so fine a taste, that the patient examiner alone detects the parts indebted to her interference. A serpentine walk, nearly two miles in extent, conducts round the most interesting parts of the domain, and through large and venerable woods. In the course of this perambulation occur numerous views, varied between a comprehensive prospect of the

metropolis and its immediate environs and the more attractive points of home scenery."

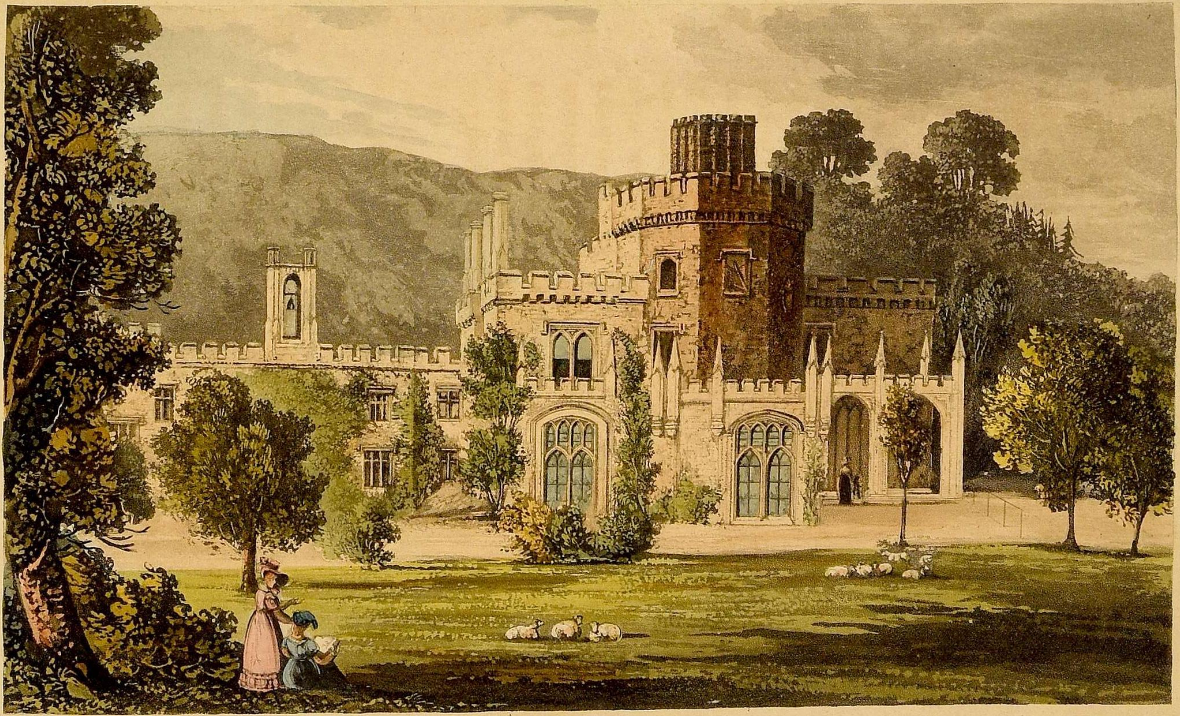
Attached to the domain is a valuable farm, containing two hundred acres, which is kept in a high state of cultivation, and enables its present noble proprietor to employ many poor labourers who otherwise would become a burden upon the parish.

LUSCOMBE,

DEVON,

THE SEAT OF CHARLES HOARE, ESQ.

There are few spots on the southern coast possessing so many local attractions as that truly delightful watering place Dawlish, where every rational amusement of the busy scenes of life may be enjoyed, while the salubrity of the climate is universally acknowledged. Luscombe, the occasional residence of Charles Hoare, Esq. the banker, is one of the most interesting buildings which has been constructed in this county, having been completed from the designs of Mr. Nash, whose superior taste in modern Gothic architecture stands unrivalled. It is situated in a narrow valley, or combe, richly clothed with woody plantations, and possessing the most pleasing variety of scenery imaginable. In the construction of this delightful place the architect has adopted the most singular combination of forms, uniting the picturesque, the beautiful, and the convenient; while the prospects from the house are truly enchanting. The several apartments are fitted up in the most elegant style, and contain a very valuable library and some good pictures.



LUSCOMBE,

SEAT OF CHAS. HOARE, ESQR.

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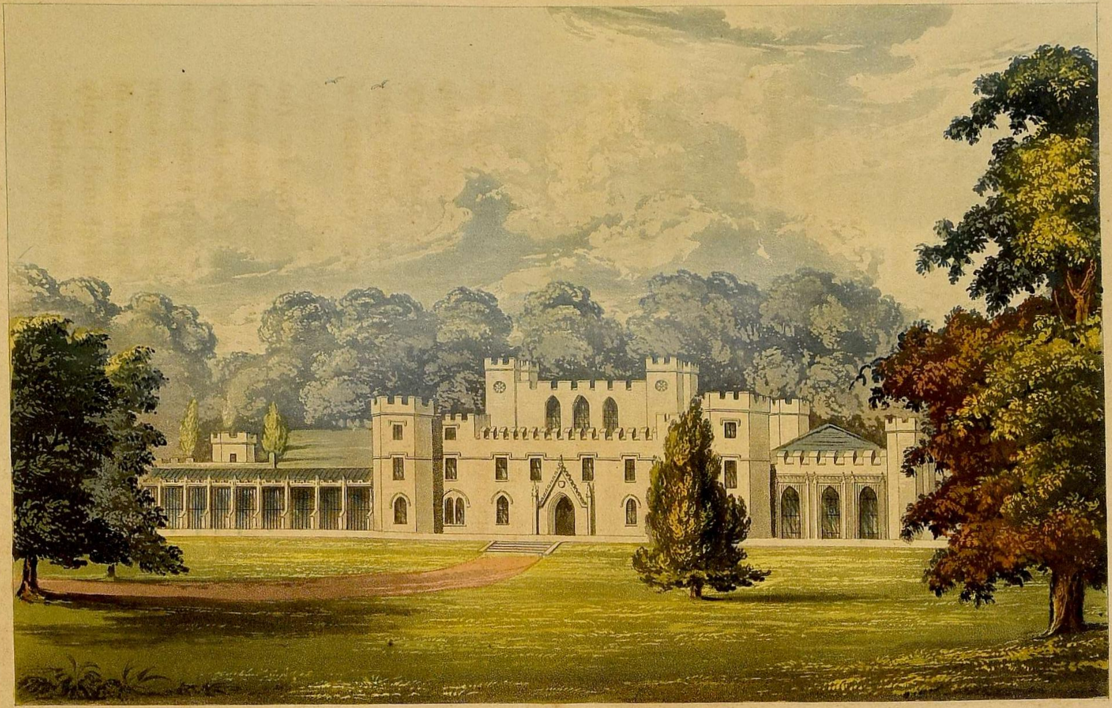


Hewetson del.^t

MICHEL GROVE,

SEAT OF THOMAS WALKER, ESQ.

R. ACKERMANN'S REPOSITORY of ARTS &c.

The grounds round the house are adorned with some of the choicest shrubs, and, together with the conservatory, are kept in perfect order.

MICHEL-GROVE,

SUSSEX,

THE SEAT OF THOMAS WALKER, ESQ.

THE noble mansion, which has been recently erected at this place, occupies the site of an ancient residence of one of the oldest and most respectable families in Sussex. Sir John Shelley, of Michel-Grove, was created a baronet by King James I., in 1611; and his descendant, the present Sir John Shelley, is the sixth baronet of England. Having sold the early habitation of his forefathers to Thomas Walker, Esq. that gentleman has had the mansion of the Shelleys pulled down, and a very splendid edifice erected in its stead. The style of architecture is florid Gothic, and the whole fabric is finished in admirable taste. The conservatory presents a peculiar object of attraction, both from its external appearance and the rare collection of plants by which it is internally adorned.

Michel-Grove has been long celebrated for the abundance and exquisite flavour of its venison, and the herds of deer greatly contribute to the beauty of its sylvan scenery. Some of the beech-trees have attained a magnificent size, which may, in some measure, be attributed to the sheltered situation of this noble residence, and the beautiful and highly ornamented grounds by which it is surrounded.

DUNSTER CASTLE,

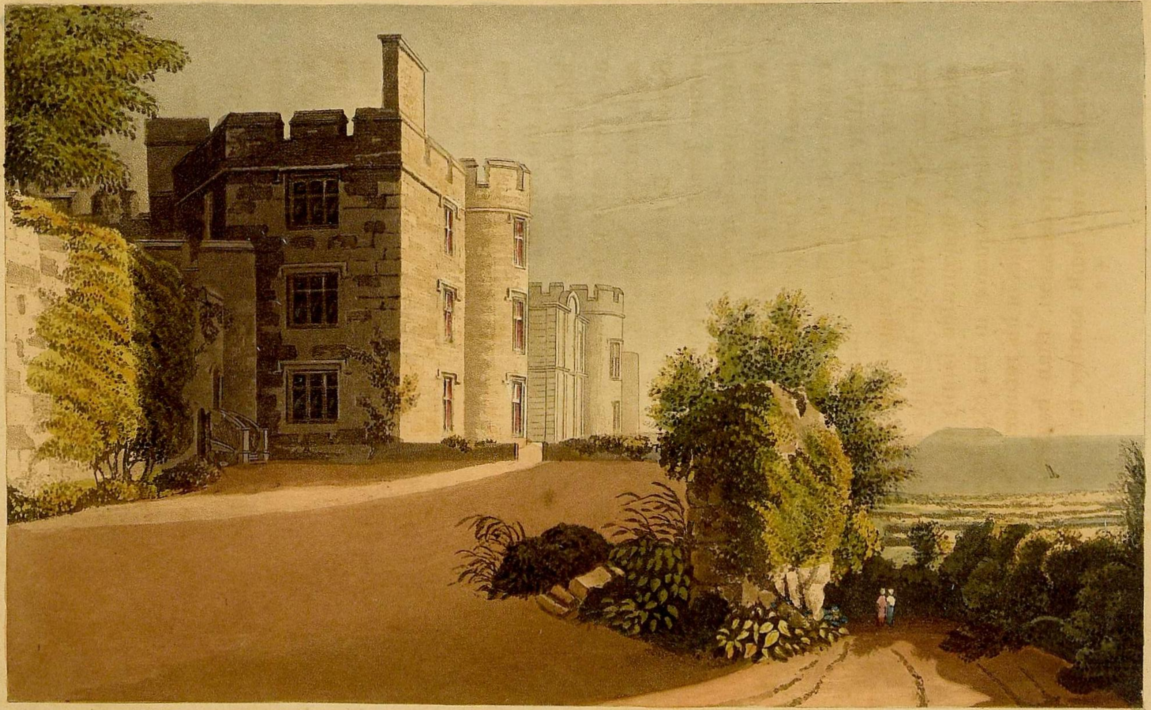
SOMERSETSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF JOHN FOWNES LUTTRELL, ESQ. M. P.

Dunster, a market-town in the hundred of Carhampton, in Somersetshire, is situated in the midst of a rich fertile vale, opening towards the Bristol Channel, but on every other side defended by lofty hills. Though formerly enjoying the privileges of a borough and sending members to Parliament, Dunster is now a very inconsiderable place, consisting principally of two streets, the one running north and south, and the other branching westward from the church.

At the southern extremity of the former, on a steep hill, stands Dunster Castle. It was originally built at a very early period, and was a place of great note, as a fortress belonging to the kings of the West Saxons. In the language of that people, it was first called Torre, which signifies a fortified tower. In after-times it received the addition of Dun or Dune, which implies a ridge of hills stretching along the seacoast. The present appellation is evidently a contraction of Dunestorre.

After the Conquest, this castle was bestowed, together with fifty-six manors in the county of Somerset, on Sir William de Mohun, descended from an ancient and honourable family in Normandy, who joined the Conqueror in his expedition, with forty-seven stout knights in his retinue. No sooner did he enter into possession, than he demolished the old structure, and built another in its stead. He also



DUNSTER CASTLE,

SEAT OF J.F. LUTTRELL, ESQ.

built the town, and founded and endowed here a priory of Benedictine monks, which he annexed as a cell to the abbey of St. Peter, at Bath. His son and grandson, both named William, greatly improved the buildings of their predecessor. The latter is distinguished in history for the assistance which he rendered to the cause of the Empress Maud, in whose behalf he fortified the castle, and made many successful inroads into the neighbouring country. These services procured him the honour of nobility, by the title of Earl of Somerset and Dorset; of which, however, his grandson was deprived in the wars of the barons. His immediate descendants were known by the style of Barons Mohun; and from their family this castle passed by purchase, about the close of the reign of Edward III., to that of Luttrell, a descendant of which, John Fownes Luttrell, Esq., representative in Parliament of the neighbouring borough of Minehead, is the present possessor.

This castle has, like other fortresses, been the scene of much military confusion. In the 17th century, the celebrated William Prynne was here confined by command of Cromwell, on account of his parliamentary conduct.

The views from this building, owing to its elevated situation, are delightfully varied and extensive. It is surrounded by a beautiful park, finely adorned with wood, and which affords pasture to a great number of sheep and deer.

SWAINSTON,

ISLE OF WIGHT,

THE SEAT OF SIR FITZWILLIAM BARRINGTON, BART.

Swainston is delightfully situated between Calbourne and Carisbrook, one mile and a half from the former, and four from the latter, to which place the demesne extends, crossing the island from sea to sea. It is one of the few places possessing a park, and, in point of woods and plantations, it exceeds any estate in the Isle of Wight. The oak here grows luxuriantly, as well as the pine. The immediate vicinity of the mansion boasts of evergreen oaks that are truly superb, in spite of the prevailing winds that are so inimical to vegetation in the island. There is a sweetness pervading the grounds of Swainston, combined with its extent, that is truly delightful, being banked by a bold hill covered with rich wood inland, and stretching down in a gentle sweep to the Solent sea on the other side. Here the views are as extensive as beautiful, looking over Shalfleet, Newton, across the Solent sea into Hampshire and the New Forest; while more to the right, Southampton water, with its shipping, and Calshot castle, tend to perfect this very interesting scene. Some fine sheets of water amidst the gardens and shrubberies, with their accompaniments of swans and other aquatic birds, boats, and elegant seats of various forms on the banks, together with the fine woods that overhang them, give a richness and finish that is truly beautiful. A very elegant rustic building has been lately

J. Gendall del.^t

SWAINSTON,

SEAT OF SIR FITZ-WILLIAM BARRINGTON, BAR.^T

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erected with great taste in the midst of the shrubbery: its simplicity deserves particular notice, combining so much beauty of line with the rude material used in its general construction. It is composed of rough stems of the elm covered with ivy, that seems to wind and form the windows as well as the seats. The flower-gardens and green-houses are kept up with the greatest care, and are in the immediate vicinity of the house.

The entrance to the mansion is elegant, its bold circular projection forming a portico, and giving to the hall a depth that is very imposing, being intersected within by coupled columns on each side, and the outer space filled with choice flowering shrubs: a portion of the hall is lighted with a dome light, and the whole has a light, airy, and elegant appearance. The principal suite of apartments is on the ground-floor. The library contains a fine collection of the best authors: connected with this is the drawing-room, which is fitted up with great taste, and commands some beautiful views. The dining-room is a very fine and spacious apartment. The staircase is of oak, rich and spacious, and adorned with fine family portraits by the first masters.

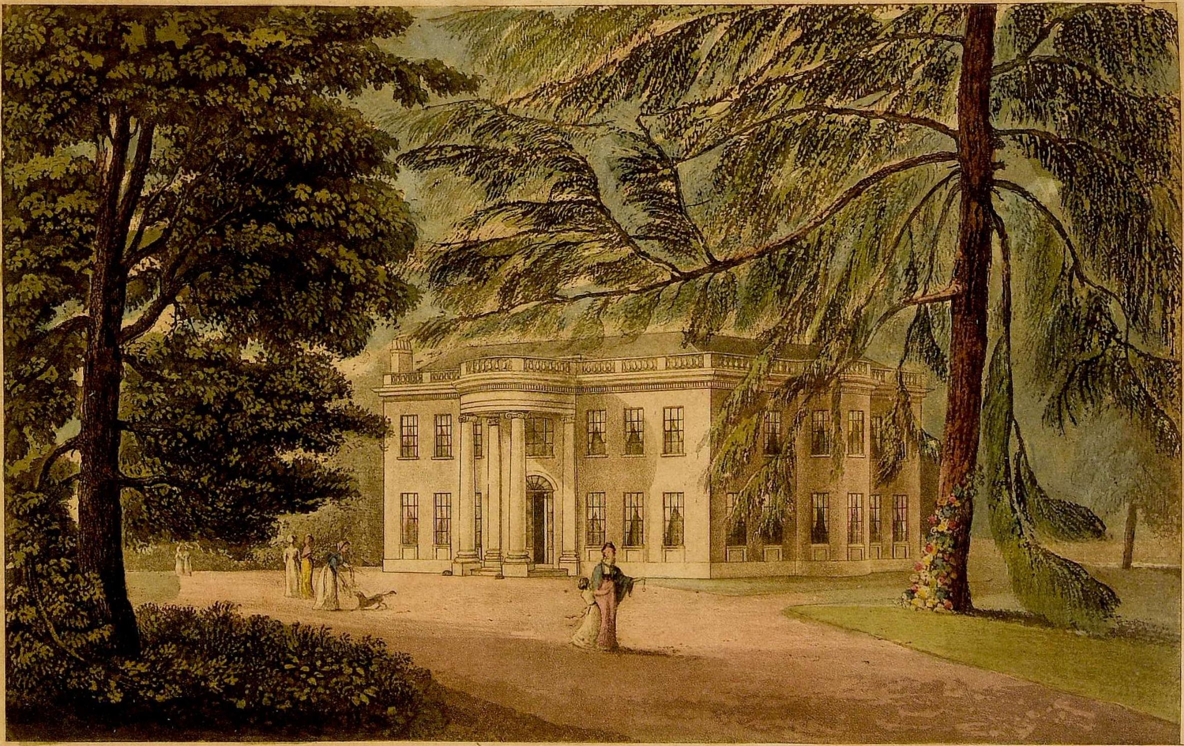
A chapel was originally attached to this mansion; a double-headed Norman window still remains. The end of a very pretty chapel, surmounted with a cross, is still entire; and some curious antique fragments remain in the offices. It is supposed to have been originally a mansion of the bishops of Winchester, to whom in early times the manor of Swainston belonged.

DELAFORD PARK,

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF C. CLOWES, ESQ.

This seat is an elegant quadrangular building, situated on rising ground, that overlooks the river Colne, in the parish of Iver. It was the residence of Sir Wm. Young, Bart., a man whose liberality and benevolence will long be remembered at Iver, from his attention to the poor, and from some useful works projected and executed at his sole expense, of which we need only mention the bridge over the Colne and a poor-house. After Sir William, Mr. Shergold became the proprietor, and he sold it to Lord Kilmorey, of whom it was purchased by the present owner. Since it has become this gentleman's property, he has with great taste made several additions. One of the principal embellishments is a circular Portico to the principal front, as represented in the engraving: it is large for the edifice, but, as seen beneath the trees that overhang the drive, it has a fine effect. The grounds are pleasing, and highly decorated with wood to the rear of the house, extending to the banks of the Colne. This river greatly augments the beauty of the grounds, and, as seen from the principal apartments, it has a fine effect. Combined with the village church, that crowns the brow of the hill which rises to the right, it adds considerably to the beauty of this part of the country in general.



J. Gendall del.[t]

DELAFORD PARK,
The Seat of C. Clowes, Esq.

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BUCKLAND FILLEIGH,

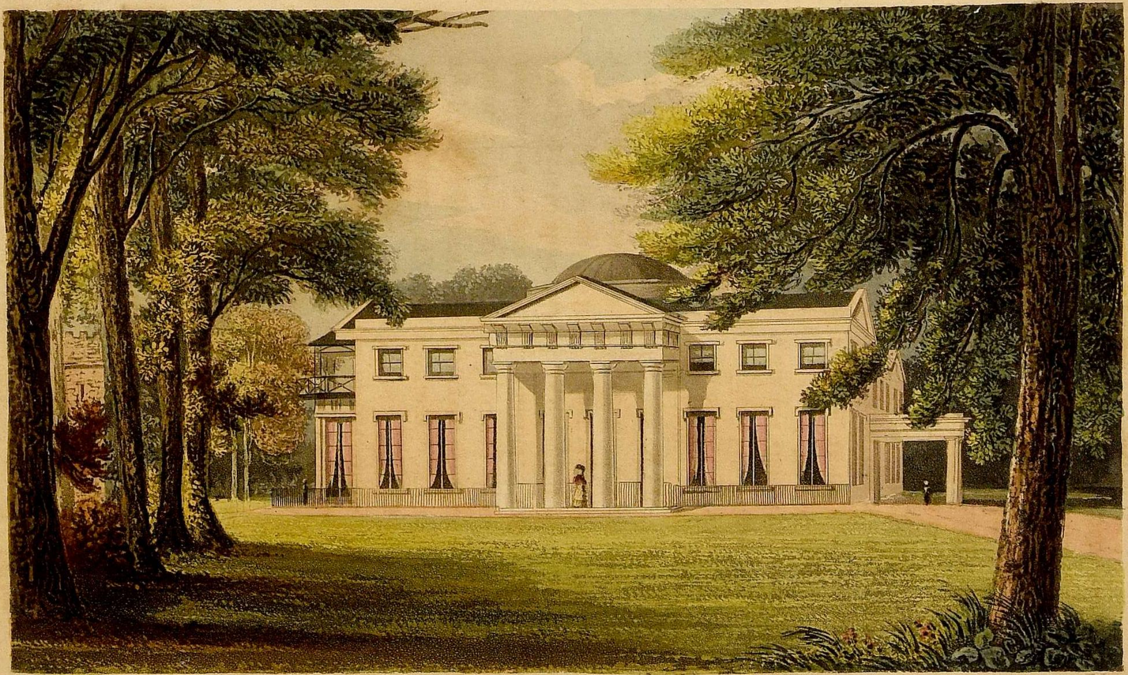
DEVONSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF JOHN INGLETT FORTESCUE, ESQ.

The old house of Buckland is of very ancient date; it is one of those substantial and quaint buildings frequently met with in this county, built of a reddish stone, and in the form of a Roman F, the initial letter of the proprietor's name—a peculiarity of the reign of Elizabeth, consequently designated Elizabethian. The whole of this structure now forms but the rear of a very noble mansion, erected by the present possessor, Colonel Fortescue, and which is at once the pride of this part of the country and a fit ornament for the very noble woods that surround it.

The engraving exhibits a view of the principal front, which is adorned with a finely proportioned granite portico of Grecian Doric. To the right is seen a colonnade of the same order, likewise of granite: this is to the north; it forms the chief entrance to the house, and affords the convenience of a covered carriage-way. This leads to the hall of entrance, which connects with the various apartments and with the south entrance, which, being in a line with the north entrance, has a pleasing effect. From this hall an old staircase communicates with a gallery, a morning-room, and the sleeping-rooms, which are numerous and admirably arranged, embracing dressing-rooms within and between the respective suites of chambers. But the principal apartments on the basement story more particularly deserve notice,

from their extent, fine proportion, chaste ornamental finishing, and rich furniture. The drawing-room, saloon, and library, being on a line, care has been taken by the architect, Mr. Green, to keep up a consistency in the size of each, as well as in the finishing. The saloon, forming the centre, is fitted up in the most elegant style with costly furniture, being thus rendered a summer living-room. Bronze figures stand between the pilasters on scagliola pedestals, supporting lamps; works of art adorn the walls; while above the eye traverses an open gallery, containing some very fine paintings. Statues are sparingly and judiciously arranged, thus carrying the sight to the highly wrought dome, from which is suspended a rich metal chandelier. The drawing-room opens to the left, and, as observed when thrown open, may be said to form a part, though the architectural features which grace the saloon are here omitted. In lieu of them it has received every embellishment in the shape of large-sized pier and other glasses: one at the head of the room produces a fine effect, from its reflecting the delightful vista through the saloon and library, with the distant woods, as seen from the library-window. The cornice, rosettes, &c. of the drawing-room ceiling are picked out in white, pink, and gold: from the centre is suspended a glass lustre. The whole of the furniture in this room, though chaste, is extremely rich—massive and highly wrought candelabra, over against them appropriate carved stands and tables, vases, with alabaster baskets and other embellishments, which bespeak fine taste in the selection and arrangement. The library is over against this apartment on the



BUCKLAND FILLEIGH.

THE SEAT OF JOHN INGLETT FORTESCUE ESQ.

R. ACKERMANN's REPOSITORY of ARTS &c.

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opposite side of the saloon, into which it opens in a corresponding manner with the drawing-room. Though similar in its general arrangements to the former apartments, it possesses just enough of their richness to form with them a very striking whole; in fact, a suite of rooms seldom surpassed in a country mansion both from magnitude and effect in the details. Its architrave, pilasters, and three-quarter columns in the circular window, have a rich effect. Independent of the books in the library, it contains a few first-rate pictures. The view from the window is most pleasing, across a lake partly embosomed in woods, to the distant blue hills of Dartmoor, which are seen to rise gradually from right to left, terminating in the bold Cawsand, which is the highest hill in the west of England. But before we leave the house, we must not omit, in passing the dining-room, breakfast, and sitting-room, all of good proportions, to make mention of a sweet little Gothic carved sitting-room. It is surrounded with oak paneling carved, each panel surmounted with a shield, on which are the Fortescue arms, quartered with those of the various noble houses into which that family has married. The door is contrived to form one of the panels, so that within it has a curious appearance, making the observer wonder how he got into such an exquisite little bijou, with its quaint old richly carved glass frame, surmounting a black marble Gothic chimney-piece, which is again surmounted by a portrait of Chancellor Fortescue in an appropriate frame, forming a pyramid of carved work, balanced by fruit and flowers, being in rich old frames. These, with its curious carved oak baskets and

stands, its old china, &c. complete a room which may be said to be unique.

The mansion stands nearly in the centre of the domain, on a rising ground, declining on every side, excepting to the west, where a gentle ascent screens it from the destructive winds from this quarter. The lawn breaks off gradually in a variety of sweeping lines, interrupted occasionally by fine trees, to the woods, which are truly majestic. A very beautiful drive of three miles extends through them. The drive round the home-plantations, being on a fine terrace, commands some superb views of the home woods and the house, which, though on a rising ground, actually seems to nestle in the midst of a forest. Occasional bursts too of the more distant country are obtained from this terrace. The south front commands an undulating lawn of forty acres, bounded by a fine wood of majestic oaks, of nearly two hundred acres, the value and richness of which are enhanced by the luxuriant growth of underwood, which is entirely of holly. Two immense avenues are cut in the great wood, called Woodcock Walks, where those birds are caught morning and evening, by means of nets, when they are flying up or down to feed: they are sometimes taken in considerable quantities.

The eastern lodge is a simple, elegant, and pleasing structure, and is situated at the head of a beautiful drive through the woods. The western lodge, which has been but lately erected, is pleasing in its form and general appearance; its rustic colonnade, bay-windows, and conical roof, terminating in clustered chimneys, have a pretty effect as seen from the

HUISH,
SEAT OF THE R^t. HON^{ble}. LORD CLINTON.

woods. The gardens, with their hot and green-houses, and the walls covered with a profusion of fine fruit-trees, rank among the best and most extensive in Devonshire. The stables are placed completely out of view, and are at once spacious and admirably arranged. They surround a fine quadrangle, one side of which has a covered ride.

HUISH, OR HEWISH,

DEVONSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF LORD CLINTON.

Huish, or Hewish, is about five miles and a half from Hatherleigh, and about seven from Torrington. This place, anciently called Hewis, gave name to the equestrian family of Hewis, whose heiress married Chief-Justice Tresilian in the reign of Richard II. and afterwards Sir John Coleshill. This manor afterwards passed by marriage to a branch of the Yeo family, who resided at this place for many generations. It was sold by the last branch of this family, Robert Roe Yeo, Esq. M. P. to Mr. John Dufty, of whom it was purchased in 1782, by Sir James Norcliffe Innes, Bart. now Duke of Roxburgh, who built a new house on the estate for his own residence. It was sold by the duke to Richard Eales, Esq. of whom it was purchased by Lord Clinton. The house has of late undergone great alterations; his lordship has not only improved the exterior by a new approach and granite portico, but has gone entirely through the interior, rendering it a complete family mansion.

The hall of entrance and staircase are new; the dining-room has a portion cut off by marble columns, the finest, in point of shaft, size, and finish, that we have seen in Devon. They are superb specimens of what may be done with Devonshire marble.

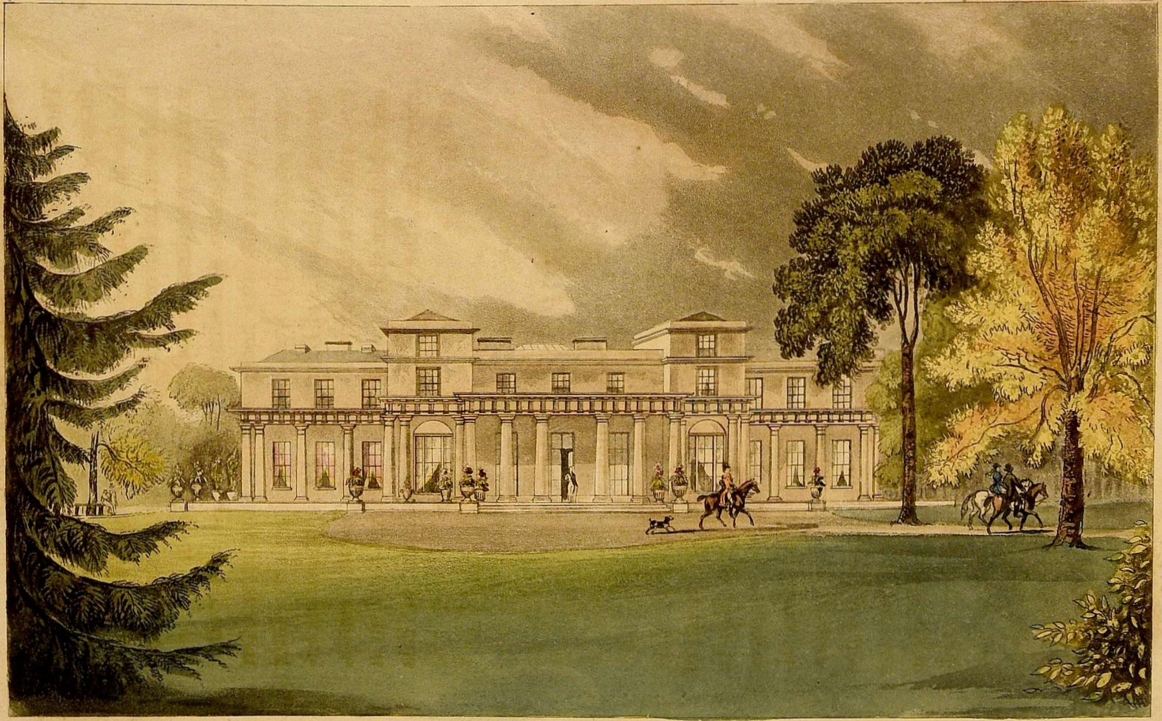
The garden and shrubbery to Huish are pretty. The views from the house are extensive, but from some points dreary, from their extending over a long low flat to the hills of Dartmoor; but it has capabilities, and from the spirit shewn in its improvements, and which are still going on, it bids fair to rival, in a short time, the more favoured situations in this county.

DROPMORE-HOUSE,

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF LORD GRENVILLE.

This noble residence is situated in the parish of Hitcham, about three miles from Maidenhead. In the reign of Henry VIII. the manor was the property of Lord Chief Justice Baldwin, from whom it descended to his grand-daughter; who conveyed it in marriage to Sir Wm. Clerke. It was purchased by Lord Grenville of the family of Friend, descended from the eminent scholar and celebrated physician, Dr. John Friend. The mansion was built by the present noble owner, and is an elegant structure, combining simplicity with richness. The North Front, as represented in the first engraving, is pleasing, from the delightful and harmonious play of lines; it is varied



J. Gendall del.t

DROPMORE,
SEAT OF EARL GRENVILLE.
View of the Entrance Front.

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without being cut up, and from the boldness of the projections a fine relief is obtained, which bears out a beautiful portico that graces the centre. A raised terrace of stone is continued from the portico on this side, which forms a pleasing walk, to the South Front, decorated as it is with vases that contain flowering shrubs. The flight of steps on this side leads to the Hall of Entrance, which is a fine room, and contains, between scagliola columns of handsome proportions, some beautiful busts, chiefly by Nollekens. Among others, are those of the Duke of Gloucester, the Earl of Chatham, the Right Hon. Wm. Pitt, the Marquis of Buckingham, the Right Hon. Wm. Wyndham, Lord Grenville, the Right Hon. George Grenville, prime minister in 1763, and the celebrated author of the Grenville Act, the Hon. Thomas Grenville, and Richard Grenville. Connected with this is an Ante-Room, containing some beautiful cabinet pictures by Claude, Poussin, Canaletti, as well as some by the Dutch masters. Beyond this room on the one side is a finely proportioned Dining-Room, containing some capital portraits. The ante-room communicates with the library as well as the drawing-room, a very elegant apartment, containing some superb inlaid and richly wrought pieces of furniture. The walls are of a warm tint, in compartments, decorated with scrolls finished in gold, while the deep cornice forms a cone of elegant workmanship. At one end of this room is Lady Grenville's Reading-Room, fitted up with great taste, and nearly similar to the drawing-room, containing a collection of books of the choicest authors. At the other end is Lord Grenville's Reading-Room, which, besides a valuable collection of

books, contains a capital portrait of the Right Hon. William Pitt, by Hoppner. The house is situated on a commanding spot, and to the south has most extensive views.

The Second View represents the South Front, along which is a pleasing verandah, decorated within and without by a variety of creeping plants; while the space immediately in front is gay and fragrant with flowers, formed in beds and growing from vases of elegant forms. The north front includes the hall, dining-room, and domestic offices, by which arrangement it is always cool and comfortable. The south front embraces the Drawing-Room, which constitutes as well an elegant library, as has been noticed, with its connecting reading and sitting-rooms; and, on a level with the lawn, the centre verandah forms by its breadth a conservatory; thus affording a delightful dry walk in the wet season, while in summer it throws on the rooms an agreeable shade, which renders them pleasing at all hours for reading or study.

In a line with this front are the green-houses, hot-houses, and other useful elegancies required in a flower-garden of such ample dimensions: the arrangement is so aptly made, that these buildings not only form of themselves embellishments of the first class, but conduce in part to screen the stables and out-houses, which in turn are rendered subservient to the general whole.

Immediately connected with this, and stretching along the commanding brow of a hill to the south, is the *winter walk*, formed of evergreens and flowering shrubs: thus carrying forward the polished arrange-

J. Gendall del.[t]

DROPMORE.
SEAT OF EARL GRENVILLE.
View of the Garden Front.

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ment of the flower-garden into the pleasure-grounds; here a tent, as a retreat from sudden showers, constitutes a resting and a reading place. Here the aviary, the singing of the birds, the endless variety of flowers of every hue that adorn the way, the rose, the myrtle, and sweet herbs that perfume the air, with charming breaks of the sweetest distances, contribute in the highest degree to the satisfaction of the mind. From this walk and from the front of the mansion the ground slopes gracefully into the amphitheatre of woods beneath. Few would conceive the place to have been a mere waste before the noble proprietor purchased it, when a small cottage only stood on the site of the present beautiful residence. It is but justice to state the whole to be the creation of Lord and Lady Grenville, who daily take delight in watching over and carefully improving the woods by judicious thinning. The lodges must not be forgotten; for the same taste that pervades the mansion and grounds is displayed in the approaches.

The principal Entrance-Lodge to the north is a fanciful cottage, of considerable size, that strongly reminds the spectator of those rich old English cottages that we now see only in prints, as in some of Cuitt's richest portions of Chester. It is formed after the best specimens of old English carved oak, in panels; while the windows, and particularly the porch, are as rich in carved work as possible, no expense having been spared to obtain fine specimens for its completion.

The Lodge to the south is equally pretty, but in a different style, being thatched, with luxuriant plants trailing over its surfaces: in form it is as elegant as possible.

HAMPTON - HOUSE,

THE SEAT OF —— GARRICK, ESQ.

In delineations of scenes on the Thames, or in a collection of seats famous for their possessors, for beauty of situation, or for architectural pretensions, whichever of these points we look to, the residence of Garrick cannot be omitted. This house is delightfully situated on the banks of the Thames, about thirteen miles from London. The grounds about the dwelling are laid out with great taste; but immediately in front of the house, the lawn, which otherwise sweeps down to the margin of the river, is cut off by the high road. To obviate this inconvenience, and to screen the walls, the woods have been suffered to increase, and the lawn is connected with the house by an archway beneath the road, as shewn in the view which was taken from the Thames.

The temple to the left was erected by Garrick in honour of Shakspeare, the man after his own heart, and the only poet capable of drawing forth the energies of his inimitable representation. This temple is an octagon building, and contained a statue of the immortal bard, by the masterly hand of Roubillac. Few statues have been erected with so much veneration, or received so much homage from the intellectual world, as this.

The house was purchased by Garrick in the year 1754. It was then but an indifferent building; it remained for Garrick to make it what it is. He adorned the apartments with many valuable paint-

J. Gendall del.t

HAMPTON HOUSE,

THE RESIDENCE OF THE LATE Mrs GARRICK.

94A

ings, by ancient and modern artists, which with all the other moveable property were sold by auction after the death of Mrs. Garrick, a few years since. On this occasion the four celebrated Election pictures by Hogarth were bought by John Soane, Esq. for £1732 10*s.*; and the statue of Shakspeare, by Roubillac, went, agreeably to Garrick's will, to the British Museum.

KILLERTON,

DEVONSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF SIR THOMAS DYKE ACLAND, BART.

Killerton, the seat of Sir Thomas Acland, was for several descents in the family of Killerton, one of whose coheiresses married Sir John Vere. After passing through several hands, the estate was purchased, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, by Edward Drewe, Esq. sergeant at law, who built a mansion on it; his son sold the estate to Sir Arthur Acland, father of Sir John, who was created a baronet in 1644, by King Charles, for his loyal services. The letters patent having been destroyed during the civil wars, they were renewed to his son, Sir Hugh, in 1677, with precedence from the former date.

The house begun by Sir Thomas, the grandfather of the present proprietor, who died in 1788, was intended only as a temporary residence. The extensions and improvements by the present baronet have been very considerable: though the exterior from

the park, as shewn in the annexed plate, is not what the very beautiful ground around it deserves, nor does it bespeak the extent of the house in the rear: the comfort and size of the interior make ample amends for the seeming deficiency of front. From the entrance, the hall has a pleasing appearance, being continued to the depth of the house, which is very considerable; it is set off in circular-headed compartments, the suite of apartments opening right and left. Portraits by Sir Peter Lely and other artists ornament the spaces over the door-ways. Immediately on entering, to the right is the breakfast-room, containing a number of beautiful drawings, principally by Nicholson; a very beautiful sketch of a waterfall, by Williams of Edinburgh, with others by the same; a fine drawing by Havell; some by Varley, with small paintings by Nasmyth; and some beautiful drawings by Barrett. Adjoining this room is the dining-room, of fine proportions and spacious, a portion of which is set off by scagliola Ionic columns and pilasters. This room contains portraits by Holbein, Sir Peter Lely, and others; among them a portrait of the Archduke Charles of Austria, in his military costume, a very powerful likeness.

The drawing-room is over against the breakfast-room, and has a sweet look-out across a deep lawn, up through a fine mass of wood, to the brow of a bold hill, the pride of Killerton and an ornament to this part of the country: but in other respects this room commands attention from its highly ornamented walls, which are divided into compartments, with pier glasses and cabinets; and more particularly from

KILLERTON.

SEAT OF SIR THO^S. DYKE ACKLAND, B^T. M.P.

96A

its possessing one of Owen's best works, a full length portrait of Sir Thomas*; a work honourable to all parties, particularly to the county that presented it, taking this mode of expressing to their able and favourite representative their high sense of his exertions for the good of his country.

The library, a corresponding room to the former, is connected with it by folding-doors, and is finished in a similar style and with the same exquisite taste as the drawing-room. It contains some fine portraits by Vandyke, Sir Peter Lely, Sir Joshua Reynolds, and others; besides a very beautiful painting, by Sir Thomas Lawrence, of Lady Acland and two of her sons†. This room contains a fine collection of books and illustrated works, besides a good collection of drawings in folios by various masters, chiefly after sketches by Sir Thomas, whose masterly scenes in Italy and Switzerland would deserve particular mention if the limits of this work would admit. Connected with this room is a private library and sitting-room, the entrance to which is through a bookcase, forming a secret entrance. The collection of titles to the sham books in this case or door-way are most curious: it will be felt how appropriate by enumerating a few; "Playfair on the late formation of Trap."—"Trap on Fictitious Entries."—"Friend's Right of Entrance."—"Continuation of Chambers."—"Pasquin at Home."—"Treatise on the Law of Partitions."—"Pleas in Vindication of Solitary Cells, by a Bachelor

* Engraved in mezzotinto by Reynolds.

† This painting has been recently engraved by Cousins, a *protégé* of Sir Thomas's, and the engraver of young Lambton, of whom as a mezzotinto-engraver Devon has to boast.

of the Inner Temple."—"Millington on Covered Ways."—"Noah's Log-Book, and Snug 's the Word, by a Clerk of the Closet." The titles near the hinges are equally quaint: "Squeak on Opening."—"Bang on Shuttings."—"Hinge's Orations."

The principal staircase is spacious, and is ornamented with a few fine paintings.

From the flower-garden a terrace-walk leads to the plantations and the beautiful woods crowning the hill; this commands a fine panoramic view of the highly cultivated country around, which has the appearance of a beautiful garden, rich, varied, and grand.

VILLA, AT RICHMOND,

SURREY,

THE RESIDENCE OF MRS. PALMER.

THIS classical little villa was built by Sir Robert Taylor for Sir Charles Asgill. The elevation is of the Tuscan order, and after a design by Palladio.—For chaste and simple elegance it far surpasses all the other works of this architect, who was remarkable only in his cumbrous structures for giving space and grandeur to his apartments; and, notwithstanding the comparative smallness of this villa, the apartments are large and handsome.

The View is from the river Thames, shewing the principal Front. It is built of Bath stone, and forms one of the chief embellishments of the neighbourhood of Richmond. The grounds are limited, and the whole is formed into what may be termed a lawn, which is terminated by a pretty Grecian green-house. The kitchen-garden attached contains an excellent hot-house and conservatory.

J. Gendall del.

MRS PALMER's VILLA, RICHMOND.

R. ACKERMANN's REPOSITORY of ARTS &c.

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BURGHLEY-HOUSE,

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE,

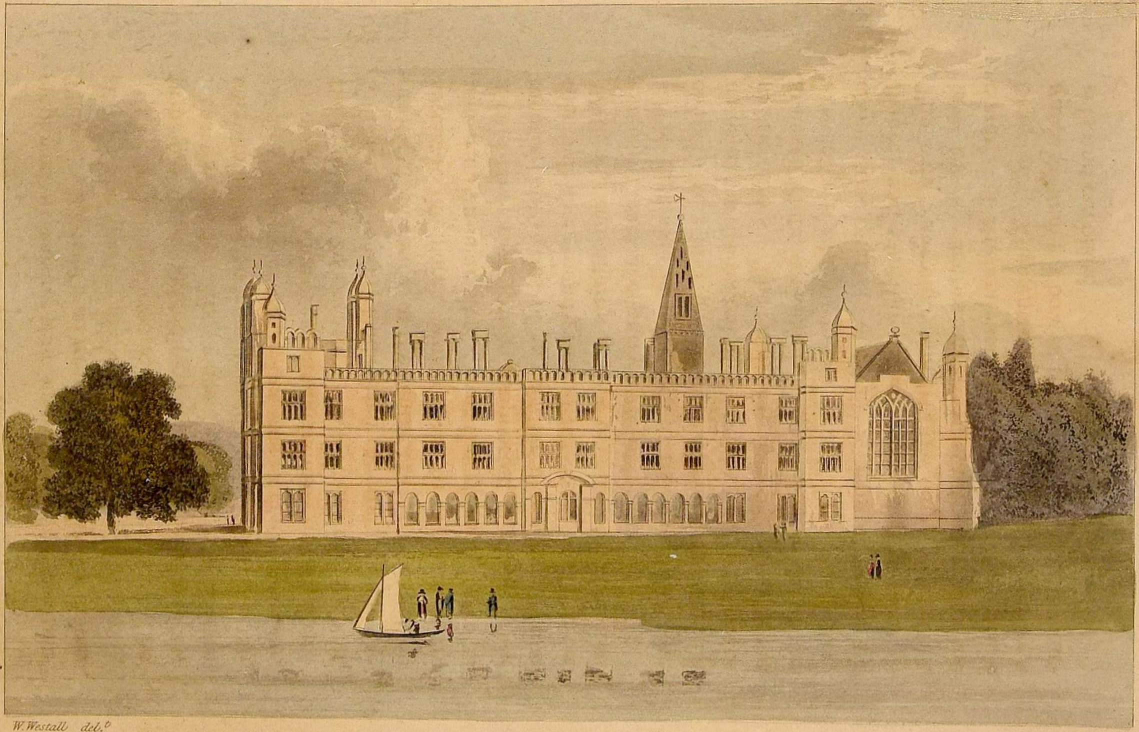
THE SEAT OF THE MARQUIS OF EXETER.

Burghley, or Burleigh, the seat of one of the branches of the Cecil family, may be ranked among the most splendid old mansions in the kingdom. It was mostly built by that celebrated statesman Lord Burghley, Lord Treasurer to Queen Elizabeth, who took his title from this place, and whose descendants have been successively created Earls and Marquises of Exeter. It stands on the site of a former mansion, the remains of which are still visible in the old hall, chapel, and kitchen, on the east side. In one of his lordship's letters, written in 1585, he says, "My house of Burghley is of my mother's inheritance, who liveth, and is the owner thereof, and I but a farmer; and for the building there I have set my walls on the old foundations. Indeed I have made the rough stone walls to be square; and yet one side remaineth as my father left it me." The plan and general arrangement which prevailed in the time of Henry VIII. seem to have been generally adopted; but the decorations received the Italian forms, which had then been recently introduced into this country. The era of the work is recorded over the west entrance in the inscription "W. Dom. de Byrghley, 1577;" and beneath the spire, in large gilt characters, is the date 1585, when some considerable additions were made to the mansion. The architect

employed in raising this sumptuous pile was John Thorpe, who displayed great judgment in the disposition of the apartments and offices.

The building forms a large quadrangle. The principal front, extending nearly two hundred feet, faces the north. The space before it, now a lawn surrounded by an iron palisade, was formerly occupied by a piece of water, but was altered by Brown, among other improvements introduced by him about the middle of last century. A circular drive, about a furlong in extent, leads from the iron gates to the principal entrance, in the centre of this front. The ascent to the porch, which opens to the hall, is by nine semi-circular steps: over the entrance there is a bold bow or projection, supported by small ornamented buttresses of a peculiar character. From this side the ground gradually declines to the river Welland, and affords a view over a beautiful and extensive tract of country.

The east side is occupied by the great hall, the chapel, &c.; and on this side, detached from the mansion, are situated the kitchen and various domestic offices. The South Front, represented in the annexed Plate, commands a fine sloping lawn, at the extremity of which winds a beautiful piece of water, about three quarters of a mile in length, formed by Brown, and some interesting parts of park-scenery. The west side enjoys nearly the same views; but here the eye embraces also distant objects in the counties of Rutland and Lincoln, and the spires of Stamford. The centre of this front is occupied by a gateway under a bow of three sides, flanked by turrets and cupolas.



W. Westall del.t

BURGHLEY HOUSE,
SEAT OF THE MARQUIS OF EXETER.

100A

At each corner of the mansion is a turret surmounted by an octagonal cupola, and terminated by a vane. The parapet, which runs all round the building, is a series of open work highly enriched, and consists of arches supported by balusters with obelisks, interspersed with the armorial ensigns of the Cecil family. All the chimneys form Doric pillars, connected at the top by a frieze and cornice.

The court, inclosed by these buildings, measures one hundred and ten feet by seventy, crossed by paved walks, which divide it into four grass-plots. This quadrangle appears to the greatest advantage when seen from the west entrance, the east side being most richly ornamented. It exhibits on the lower story the Doric order, above which is the Ionic, and in the upper the Corinthian: over all, in the centre compartment, rises a spire, having in the parapet a curious dial supported by lions, as the family arms are in other parts of this spacious structure.

The arrangements of the interior are such as to reflect great credit on the architect. The state apartments are spacious, and fitted up in the most magnificent style. Many of the ceilings are painted by the celebrated Verrio, who, after he had finished his labours at Windsor, was invited hither, and employed by the Earl of Exeter.

The total number of apartments in this mansion, all of which are furnished in a manner suitable to the purposes for which they are intended, is one hundred and forty-five. There are few of them which are not adorned with paintings and other productions of the arts. These works, many of them of great value, and by the first masters, are so numerous, that

it would require too much space to specify merely the most meritorious of them. Such readers as are particularly interested in this subject will find a complete catalogue of them, as well as of the antiquities and curiosities of this spacious mansion, in the "Guide to Burghley-House," published by Mr. Drakard of Stamford.

The kitchen, which stands detached, with several other buildings, from the east end of the mansion, is a noble room, measuring forty-eight feet by thirty. It is very lofty, and has a groined arched ceiling.

Adjoining to other outbuildings leading from the east wing of the house are the stables, which are extensive, and have a noble appearance. They compose three sides of a square of about two thousand five hundred yards, and are very lofty, with indented parapet walls. The coach-houses are in the centre of each side, and the entrances to them are under pointed archways, having windows, like the stables, of the same Gothic structure. A circular bason, in the centre of the spacious gravelled court surrounded by these buildings, is continually supplied with pure spring water.

The pleasure-grounds and shrubberies, also on the east side of the house, with their decorations, were laid out by Brown. The effect produced on a stranger by the boat-house in particular is delightful. After wandering through serpentine walks, where he meets with nothing that indicates the proximity of water, he is suddenly led through a door made in the declivity of a hill, and no sooner has he passed it than the expansive surface of a lake presents itself to view; and, on a closer examination,

he finds that he is admiring it from a balcony erected round the boat-house, the ceiling and sides of which are thickly covered with moss.

On the south side of the shrubberies, at an agreeable distance from the water, is a modern Gothic temple, after the model of that at Campden, Gloucestershire: it contains a fine bust of William Duke of Cumberland. In a contiguous plantation of laurel and other evergreens stands an elegant monument erected by Brownlow, ninth Earl of Exeter, to the memory of his mother.

The park, originally formed and encompassed with a stone wall by the first Lord Burghley, is about two miles long, and from half a mile to a mile in breadth. It is finely wooded and stocked with deer. The entrance and lodges, near the town of Stamford, are an elegant modern structure, erected for the late marquis by Mr. Legg of Stamford. The centre, consisting of three arches, is flanked by two uniform square turrets, surmounted by a sort of hexagonal cupolas, which are terminated by the chimneys. On the outer extremities of these turrets are wings, containing two or three apartments on the ground-floor. The expense of erecting this entrance and the lodges is said to have amounted to £5000.

Burghley-House and the chief part of the demesne are situated in the parish of Stamford St. Martin, in the church of which are some costly monuments of the Cecil family.

About two miles to the west of Burghley are the ruins of Withorp or Worthorpe Lodge, a building of considerable size, and not inferior in elegance to the

former mansion, erected by the first Earl of Exeter, the son of the lord treasurer, who jocularly said, that "he built it only to retire to out of the dust while his great house at Burghley was sweeping." It was so large and commodious as to serve after the Restoration for the residence of the Duke of Buckingham.

ELVILLS,

SURREY,

THE SEAT OF THE HON. W. H. FREEMANTLE, M. P.

There are but few mansions in the environs of the metropolis, at least within the distance of twenty miles, that are more deserving of notice for elegance and simplicity than that which is represented in the annexed plate. When we consider the peculiar beauties of this part of the country, enriched with remarkably fine plantations of timber, and enlivened by the meanderings of the river Thames, and also the excellence of the roads leading to it, we cannot be surprised that so many elegant habitations should have been constructed here within the last fifty years.

Elvills, which derives its name from the late Sir John Elvill, Bart. at whose expense this seat was built, is very similar in style to the celebrated Strawberry-Hill, being a chaste example of the modern Gothic, and was completed, from the designs of Ledbeater, about the year 1766. The interior is fitted up in the most elegant manner. Elvills became the property of the Hon. Mr. Freemantle by marriage with the daughter of the above-named baronet.

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ELVILLS

THE SEAT OF THE HON. W. FREEMANTLE, M.P.

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WOODSIDE,

THE SEAT OF JOHN RAMSBOTTOM, ESQ. M.P.

WOODSIDE,

BERKSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF JOHN RAMSBOTTOM, ESQ. M. P.

Woodside-House is situated on the highest ground of the pretty parish of Old Windsor, commanding some fine views of the distant country. Among other fine features is Windsor Castle, a distant peep of which is gained in the present view. The mansion is of brick, and partly Gothic, as will be perceived by its embattlements and pointed windows. The Entrance-Hall is decorated with marine and other views, painted on the walls in a neutral tint, which is pleasing. This leads to the Dining-Room, finished in a similar manner with landscapes, but in their proper colours. Connected with the latter is a Sitting-Room, containing a variety of Turkish, Dalmatian, and Hindoo costumes, spiritedly painted, and, as well as the landscapes in the Dining-Room, attached to the wall, of which they seem to form a part. This room forms the ground-floor of the distant flank of the building, as seen in the view. The corresponding room in the near wing is a pleasing reading-room and study. The Library is a fine room, containing a valuable collection of books, exceeding a thousand volumes of the best authors; and among some family portraits, one of the late beautiful Mrs. Ramsbottom. The views from this room are of the most interesting description. The Drawing-Room is of fine proportions, and contains some capital paintings: the furniture is blue and gold.

The house is surrounded with flowering shrubs, which are highly pleasing to the eye: the grounds are extensive and well wooded. The Conservatory, as shewn a short distance from the house, is a chaste building, embellished with pilasters and vases, surmounted with an elegant clock-tower. The water in front, combined with flowering shrubs, orange-plants, and fine woods around, gives considerable interest to this portion of the grounds. Immediately behind, planted out from view, are the stables with other offices.

CLANDON-PARK,

SURREY,

THE SEAT OF EARL ONSLOW.

This is one of the most elegant mansions in the county, erected from the designs of Leoni, at the expense of the second peer, whose father purchased the estate of the Duncomb family in the early part of the last century. It is situated in a very fertile and richly wooded park, about three miles from Guildford, and is enlivened by several herds of deer. The interior is fitted up in the most splendid style, the apartments being extremely commodious. The entrance-hall is particularly striking, being a perfect cube of forty feet: it has two elegant carved fireplaces by Rysbrack.

The prospects from the house are extremely beautiful, and the grounds are embellished with some of the most delightful plantations, which, from the peculiar richness of the soil, thrive to the greatest advantage.

F. W. L. Stockdale del.^t

CLANDON PARK,

SEAT OF THE R.T HON.BLE EARL OF ONSLOW.

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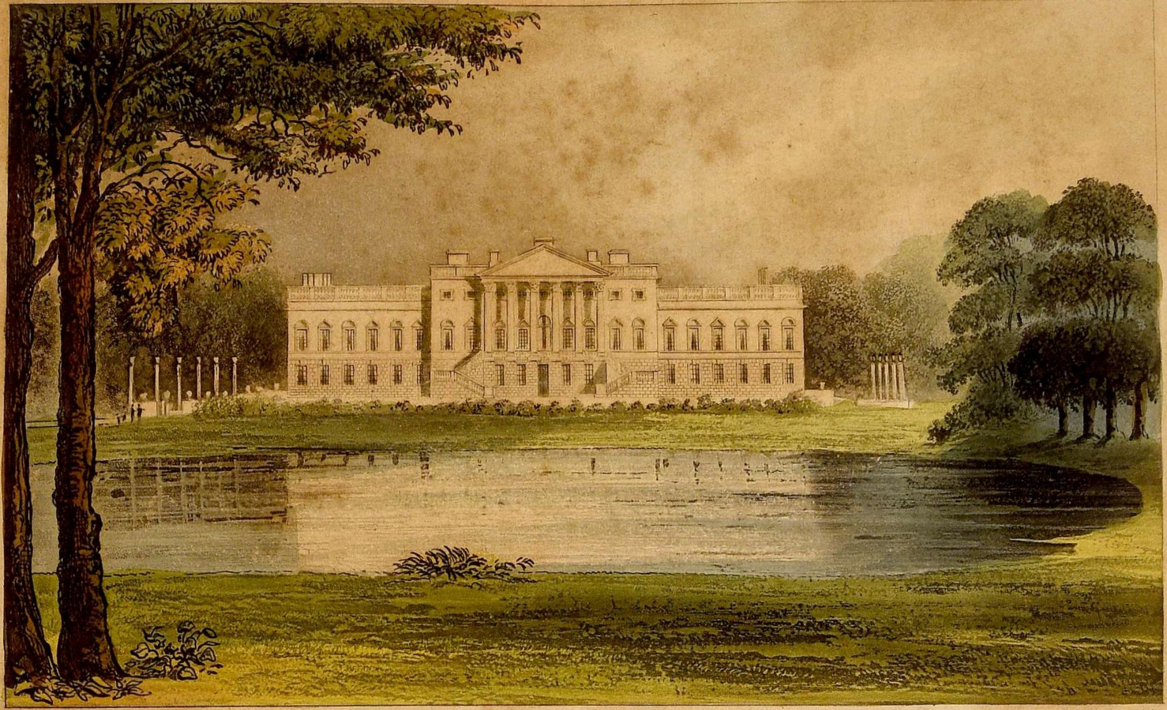

J. Gendall del.[t]

WANSTEAD HOUSE,

THE SEAT OF W. POLE TILNEY LONG WELLESLEY, Esq.

R. ACKERMANN'S REPOSITORY of ARTS &c.

W. Delamotte Junr. delt.

HAWLEY HOUSE,
THE RESIDENCE OF T. CHAMPION, ESQ.

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Wanstead House no longer exists : soon after the view here given of it was taken, the building itself and the magnificent furniture were ordered by the owner to be sold by public auction. The sale lasted from the 10th June, 1822, to the 23d July, and produced 41,380*l*. 0*s*. 3*d*. The mansion, also sold by auction on the 12th May, 1823, produced 10,000*l*. and was immediately pulled down.

HAWLEY-HOUSE,

HAMPSHIRE,

THE PROPERTY OF J. NORRIS, ESQ.

Hawley-House is situated in the most pleasing part of Hampshire, and commands an extensive view over part of Berkshire, Hampshire, and Surrey. The grounds, containing about two thousand six hundred acres of rich pasture-land, are tastefully laid out, and adorned with seats, rustic cottages, and some very elegant lodges. The woods are extensive, consisting of very fine oak and fir trees, the greater part of which were planted by the father of the present owner.

The house is a plain mansion, not conspicuous for the style of architecture, being built more for convenience than show; and, as the situation is well chosen, it is a most desirable residence. The large window over the door, as seen in the plate, was painted by Mr. Norris himself, and possesses considerable merit. A walk over the grounds affords a highly gratifying treat, as they display a delightful variety of hill and dale, rich lawns and inviting slopes, which are alternately relieved by the seats and lodges above-mentioned. T. Champion, Esq. is the present occupant of this mansion.

POWDERHAM-CASTLE,

DEVONSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF VISCOUNT COURTENAY.

POWDERHAM-CASTLE, situated about seven miles from Exeter, was formerly a strong castle, with a barbican, for the defence of the haven. During the civil war in the 17th century it was garrisoned for King Charles, and besieged by Fairfax, who, finding it too strong, desisted from the attempt, and contented himself by taking possession of Powderham church: this was in 1645. In January 1646, the castle was surrendered to Colonel Hammond. It must again have fallen into the hands of the royalists, from an account we find of its being taken by Sir Hardress Waller in March 1646. Notwithstanding the various alterations that have taken place, it still retains much of its castellated appearance, as will be seen from the annexed View of the Principal Front from the park.

The hall of entrance leads to an ante-room, still possessing some family portraits. Immediately connected with this are the breakfast-room and middle drawing-room, which had to boast of some splendid works of art that have passed into other hands. Here hung for many years the celebrated work of the Antwerp blacksmith, the Tribute-Money, and other master-pieces. The rooms are finely wrought, and the ceilings highly ornamented. The mantel-pieces are beautiful specimens of art in Parian marble.

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PAWDERHAM CASTLE,
THE SEAT OF VIS.T LORD COURTENAY.

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Connected with this is the drawing-room. In the absence of the costly furniture that once decorated these apartments, visiters still have the pleasure to contemplate some fine portraits that yet grace the walls.

The drawing-room was formerly a chapel: with it is connected a superb music-room; twelve marble pilasters enrich the sides, and support a beautiful frieze, which is terminated by a dome highly ornamented with enriched coffers. The intercolumniations are decorated with pictures and niches containing marble vases on fluted porphyry columns. The beautiful marble mantel-piece in this room deserves particular notice: it is a superb work of Parian marble, supported by figures on each side, the size of life. The entablature represents Apollo and the Muses, finely wrought. The upper drawing-room contains a family picture of fourteen portraits, by the Rev. W. Peters. In this room are some fine pieces of tapestry, representing a Dutch harvest-home, &c. This apartment communicates with the library, which consists of a splendid collection of books in ancient carved cases, comprising some very valuable works, both ancient and modern, and among the rest some of the most costly and superb specimens that ever issued from the British press, particularly in point of illustrated works. There is much old carving about this library, which partakes of the style of the 17th century: the mantel indeed appears to be much earlier.

The principal staircase is loaded with arabesque ornaments, which have a fine and stately effect.

The gardens attached to the castle are extensive, and have been kept in the finest order: its flower-gardens likewise have been celebrated for their arrangement and choice collection of costly plants.

The grounds are beautifully laid out, and so blend with the flower-garden as to form a lovely whole. Here is still to be seen the rare exotic growing in all its native luxuriance, combined with the temple, the orchestra, and banqueting-room, that once gave life and soul to the scene.

The park is extensive and well stocked with deer. The woods are of the finest kind, sweeping along the brow of the hill in the vicinity of the castle in magnificent forms, beautifully diversified in all the tones of forest-scenery, pleasure-grounds, and plantations. This hill is surmounted by an hexagonal building, denominated the Belvidere: it comprises a tower about sixty feet in height, from which some superb views of the adjacent country are commanded. The river Exe constitutes a noble feature, skirting the park, and continuing to flow in all its majesty to the sea at Exmouth, which forms a beautiful point, terminating the headland from Woodbury, that bounds the horizon, and stretches away over the villages of Lympstone and Topsham, which skirt the river, up to Exeter.

The castle of Powderham, in the reign of William the Conqueror, belonged to William Earl of Eu, who forfeited it in the next reign. It then became the property of a family to whom it gave name, and continued for many descents in this family, the last of whom, John Powderham, was attainted, when it

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HAM HOUSE,

SEAT OF THE COUNTESS OF DYSART.

became the property of Humphrey de Bohun, Earl of Hereford, who gave it as a marriage-portion with his daughter Margaret to Hugh Earl of Devon, who settled it on his younger son, Sir Philip Courtenay, immediate ancestor of the present proprietor.

HAM-HOUSE,

SURREY,

THE SEAT OF THE COUNTESS OF DYSART.

This mansion, which is situated in a most delightful spot on the banks of the Thames, about one mile above Richmond Bridge, possesses a strong claim to notice; not only ranking as one of the most perfect specimens of the architecture of the sixteenth century, but containing many valuable works of art and other interesting objects. In the centre of the house, which is chiefly composed of brick, is a large hall, surrounded with an open gallery; and the balustrades of the grand staircase are composed of carved walnut-tree. In the western side is a picture-gallery, ninety-two feet in length, which contains numerous family portraits.

This seat is remarkable as the birthplace of that eminent statesman and general, John Duke of Argyle, who was grandson to the Duchess of Lauderdale.

The beautiful groves called Ham-Walks, which environ this seat, cannot fail to excite universal admiration.

STOKE-FARM,

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF THE EARL OF SEFTON.

This charming residence may be termed a *ferme ornée*. Its situation is favourable, and nature has been so far only assisted as to permit its natural beauties to spread over the demesne in uninterrupted ease. The woods, shrubberies, and gardens, immediately about the house, are so judiciously arranged as to present many interesting points of view; laying the house partially open to the south, and screening it completely to the north and east, on which side the offices are situated and planted out, with the exception of some portions, that add to the general effect of the entire scene.

The View is of the Front from the lawn, on which side are some of the principal apartments, elegantly fitted up, the windows extending to the floor, forming door-ways, that open beneath a spacious verandah, along which flowering shrubs twine in rich luxuriance, exhibiting, when seen from the apartments, natural festoons of the richest colours. The lawn in front is so judiciously laid out with evergreens, intermixed with deciduous shrubs, that the greater portion is embellished with rich foliage in the winter season: combined with the verandah, or rather corridor, it forms a pleasing winter walk.

Here is a small park of about forty acres, through which there is a pleasant drive to the lodge, which is pretty and chaste. It is rendered pleasing by the deep thatched roof, which, overhanging the dwelling, forms a pretty rustic colonnade. The supports

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STOKE FARM,

SEAT OF THE EARL OF SEFTON.

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NUTWELL COURT,

THE SEAT OF SIR THOMAS TRAYTON FULLER ELIOTT DRAKE, BAR.[T]

are unbarked stems of trees, around which grow the rose and the jessamine.

The estate was purchased by the late Lord Sefton of a Mr. Johnson. The house was then a mere farm, but served as an occasional residence. The whole of the alterations, both in the house and grounds, have been effected by the present noble owner; and they have been guided by such taste and judgment that Stoke-Farm now forms as delightful a retreat as can be desired.

NUTWELL-COURT,

DEVONSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF SIR THOMAS TRAYTON FULLER ELIOTT DRAKE, BART.

THIS fine mansion is situated near Lympstone, in the manor of Nutwell, between Exeter and Exmouth, about seven miles from the former and four from the latter. The first account we have of this place dates so far back as the reign of Henry II. when it was the property of Oliver de Dinham, and formed part of the barony of Hartland. By this family it was given to the priory of Dinant, in Brittany; but after the suppression of alien priories, it reverted again to the Dinham family. In the reign of King Henry VII. Sir John Dinham, afterwards Lord Dinham (and who was then treasurer), built on the site of the present mansion a castellated edifice; and if we may form an idea of it from a small portion still preserved with great care, it must have been, what Risdon calls it, "a fair and stately dwelling."

This remaining portion is now formed into a spacious library, being attached to the dwelling: formerly it was used as the family chapel. It is a pure bit of rich Gothic; the gable-end being highly enriched, flanked on the one side with a fine sculptured figure of the Archangel hurling Satan down, and on the other side, St. George and the Dragon, both placed in highly wrought niches. The battlements are emblazoned with family arms of the various occupants. The estate was sold by the Dinhams to Serjeant Prideaux, in whose family it continued many years, being the seat of Sir Thomas Prideaux, and successively of Sir Henry Ford and the Pollexfens. The last Sir Francis Henry Drake died in 1794, bequeathing his property to the late Lord Heathfield, son of his sister and heir, who had married General Eliott, the gallant defender of Gibraltar. This nobleman dying, in 1813, without issue, his estates devolved to his sister's son, the present proprietor, who, after his return severely wounded from the Peninsular war, was, in 1821, created a baronet, which title has been in the family from the first creation.

Nutwell-Court is a spacious quadrangular building, presenting three fronts. The principal or Entrance-Front, as shewn in the first engraving, possesses an elegant simplicity. Owing to the nature of the ground, the principal entrance is by a flight of steps thrown across an area, which, by its embellishments, forms a pleasing feature. It is terminated by a kind of vestibule supported by columns, which answers all the purposes of a portico, throwing deep

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NUTWELL COURT,

THE SEAT OF SIR THOMAS TRAYTON FULLER ELIOTT DRAKE, BAR.T

shadows, and becoming an ornament to the house. It is decorated with flowering shrubs and niches, the latter containing two lovely statues of Canova's, brought from Rome in 1817 by Sir Thomas. This vestibule, enriched with these adornments, affords a fair specimen of the fine taste that prevades the interior of the mansion. The hall of entrance is hung round with medallions in Parian marble; while in the centre a trophy of warlike instruments is raised in bronze to the memory of Eliott, the hero and defender of Gibraltar. The hall communicates with the grand staircase, hung with works of art: among them are a superb Rembrandt and a Guido, Venus attired by the Graces. This picture was presented by her late Majesty Queen Charlotte to Sir Francis Henry Drake. But it is in the state apartments, the saloon, and the drawing-rooms, that the man of taste and the artist would love to linger, the walls being covered with some of the finest works of the old masters: the apartments are splendidly fitted up, and contain among the many fine works some beautiful figure drawings by Lady Eliott Drake, whose taste for landscape deserves particular mention. The dining and breakfast-rooms also contain some fine works of art, among them splendid specimens of Weenix and Hondekoeter.

Owing to the ground being raised to the basement story of the principal entrance, as before noticed, the entire depth of the house on this side is not perceived. It possesses the advantage of conducting the visiter at once into the principal apartments, a noble staircase being continued to the dining and breakfast

rooms beneath, which are on a level with the lawn, and communicating with it by French windows. This arrangement gives a delightful coolness to the living apartments in summer, and warmth in winter; it affords also an easy access to the various offices, baths, &c.

The views from the house are extremely beautiful. The lawn opens towards the river Exe, which abounds with some of the most beautiful views in Devonshire. The grounds are delightfully varied, both as to form and the variety of woods that adorn them: there is about the plantations a richness scarcely to be expected in the immediate vicinity of a mansion. Nature here shows her efforts to break from the trammels of art, being suffered to sport without fear of the pruning-knife. The elm, the oak, the plane, with the cedar and a variety of other trees, throw their limbs about in seemingly wild harmony, forming a sylvan retreat truly delightful, with its combination of tints, and its brilliant and mellow lights stealing into the recesses rich with deep shadows.

The second View of this fine mansion is taken from the river. The gardens are in the rear of the house: they are extensive and well arranged, as well as the hot-houses and conservatories.

The woods are delightfully intersected with serpentine walks, which in parts skirt the river, and in other places penetrate the umbrageous gloom, producing, with the distant views, every variety that can be wished for.

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BISHOPS COURT,

SEAT OF THE RIGHT HON^BLE LORD GRAVES.

BISHOP'S-COURT,

DEVONSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF LORD GRAVES.

Bishop's-Court, purchased by the father of the present noble owner of the executors of Miss Beavis, who died in 1801, stands in the parish of Farringdon, about four miles from Exeter. It is pleasingly situated, and commands some interesting and rather extensive scenes from its western front. The view represents the entrance-front, which still possesses much of the old clerical character. The hall of entrance is spacious, and communicates with the billiard-room, dining-room, drawing-room, and library; the two latter being so contrived as to form one very fine room, extending the length of the western front. This room contains a few paintings; among them a full-length portrait of the late Admiral Lord Graves.

The gardens are extensive, and in fine order. From the entrance-front a fine avenue of venerable trees leads to the London road, and partly surrounds the out-offices, which are commodious, and exhibit much of the ecclesiastic remains in the original form. Over one of the door-ways, now removed, was cut in stone by a worthy man, a priest and resident, a Latin motto, which may be thus translated: "My door is open, but my heart is opener still."

The father of the present Lord was Thomas Graves, Admiral of the Blue, who was created a peer of Ireland in 1794, for his services in Earl Howe's victory over the French fleet.

TABLEY-HOUSE,

CHESHIRE,

THE SEAT OF LORD DE TABLEY.

This elegant and noble edifice is situated about two miles from Knutsford in Cheshire. It was built by Sir Peter Leicester, father of the late proprietor, and is considered the *chef-d'œuvre* of the celebrated architect, Carr. The view is taken from the south, shewing the fine Doric portico, which is remarkable for the size and beautiful proportions of the columns, each consisting of a single stone, and is certainly the largest in the kingdom. The basement story forms a fine and extensive saloon, constituting an excellent lounge, or place for in-door exercises, when the weather will not permit the enjoyment of the endless variety of amusements which the grounds present, such as sailing, driving, fishing, &c. A handsome double flight of steps leads to the main entrance and to the principal suites of apartments, which are numerous, magnificent, and fitted up in a suitable style of splendour. The Picture-Gallery is a superb room, measuring seventy-two feet by thirty-two, fitted up by Mr. Harrison of Chester, under the directions of the late Lord de Tabley, for a portion of his admirable collection of paintings. To this nobleman, better known as Sir John Fleming Leicester, is due the proud distinction of having been the first to form a British Gallery, and with truly patriotic feeling, throwing open these fine specimens of the British school to those who are capable of apprecia-

J. Gendall del.t

TABLEY HOUSE.

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ting them. An excellent catalogue of the entire collection, with etchings, was, by his permission, executed by Mr. Young.

Among the decorations of Tabley are also several beautiful Landscapes by the late lord, remarkable for their charming tone of colour and breadth of effect; and a few pictures of the old masters.

The ceiling of the gallery is ornamented, and from the middle division a superb chandelier is suspended.

The sofas and chairs are of deep red figured silk and gold, to correspond with the rich hangings and finishings of this splendid apartment. The whole of the ornaments are in matt and burnished gold.—Dwarf agate columns, with candelabra, are placed at intervals, and have a pleasing effect. A number of fine family portraits are distributed in various apartments.

The views across the grounds, from the front of the mansion, which, including the wings, extends three hundred and forty three feet, are very interesting; an extensive sheet of water, with its lakes and marine accompaniments, has a pleasing effect from all parts of the grounds, particularly from the house. This lake was formed by the late lord at a considerable expense. It occupies seventy acres, and in many parts is thirty feet deep. A tower rises from a small island in the centre, as may be seen in the annexed view, copied by permission from a painting by Turner. This tower contains some good apartments adapted for fishing parties. The terrace commands extensive views of the Derbyshire hills.

Connected with this lake there is a second, also seen from the house, nearly surrounded with over-

hanging woods. It is divided from the former by a Gothic boat-house and bridge: a considerable and pleasing fall takes place at the centre arch, to supply the lower lake, in the middle of which, on an island, is situated Nether Tabley, a Gothic structure, forming, with the church (now used for the family), which stands beside it, a most picturesque and venerable object. It was the original habitation of that celebrated antiquary Sir Peter Leicester, Bart. author of "The Antiquities of Cheshire," &c. It was built in the reign of Richard II. and is preserved with great care. Its highly carved mantel-pieces, its door-ways hung with tapestry, its stained glass, and old sculptured entrance entwined with ivy, which is so luxuriant as to cover the very battlements, combined with its sequestered situation, produce a truly romantic effect. A small portion of the edifice is appropriated to the domestic use of the head-gardener. Access is acquired by a simple bridge, which has on the main land its small Gothic portal or keep.

The park contains about six hundred acres, is well wooded, and has some excellent drives. The main road from Manchester to Chester crosses a portion of it at the back of the mansion: the connection is preserved by means of sunk fences.

The pleasure-grounds are well laid out. The gardens are ample, with a considerable extent of wall for fruit, forcing-houses, and green-houses. The stables may be considered as a perfect model, both as to magnificence and convenience. They consist of a neat elegant quadrangle, in the middle of which is a spacious riding-house. The offices belonging to

SCENE IN TABLEY PARK.

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BELMONT HOUSE,

SEAT OF J. NORMAN, ESQ.

FR. ACKERMANN'S REPOSITORY of ARTS &c.

the stables, for such they may with great propriety be styled, possess every possible convenience.

On the recent decease of Lord de Tabley, his title and estate devolved to his only son, who is still a minor.

BELMONT-HOUSE,

DEVONSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF JOHN NORMAN, ESQ.

Considering the delightful situation of the environs of Plymouth and Devonport, and their maritime importance, it is not a matter of surprise that so many elegant mansions have been erected there in addition to other buildings, occasioned by the continual influx of visiters. Belmont-House deservedly claims distinction, not only as one of the most chaste examples of the Grecian style of architecture, but as containing a very valuable collection of pictures and other works of art. It is situated nearly a mile from the town of Devonport; and, from its elevated position, commands one of the most pleasing and extensive prospects imaginable, embracing Plymouth, Mount Edgecumbe, and the Breakwater, with the numerous ships passing and repassing, forming altogether a scene not to be surpassed.

The principal front, facing the west, is adorned with a lofty portico of four columns, and has a very imposing appearance; but, although the interior is fitted up in a very handsome manner, the chief attraction of this edifice consists in the works of art, which have been collected by the proprietor at a very considerable expense.

MOOR PARK,

HERTFORDSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF ROBERT WILLIAMS, ESQ.

This splendid mansion stands on the site of one originally built by Cardinal Wolsey. In the time of Charles II. it was the property of the unfortunate Duke of Monmouth, the eldest of the natural children of that king, for whom the house was rebuilt by Sir Christopher Wren; and it was esteemed one of the most perfect of his brick structures. Anne, his duchess, who, after his death, married Lord Cornwallis, sold the estate, in 1720, to a Mr. Styles, who had just amassed a very large fortune by the notorious South Sea speculation. By him the house was rebuilt with stone, in a much more magnificent style, from the designs of Giacomo Leoni, a celebrated Italian architect, and Sir James Thornhill, who acted as surveyor, at an expense of £150,000. After the decease of Mr. Styles, the estate was purchased by George, afterwards Lord Anson, who laid out £80,000 in the improvement of the grounds, under the direction of Brown. In 1765, the property was transferred to Sir Laurence Dundas, Bart. whose son sold it, in 1787, to Thomas Bates Rouse, Esq. and from the executors of that gentleman it was purchased in 1799 by Robert Williams, Esq. the father of the present proprietor, to whom it descended in 1814.

The present mansion was the centre only of the magnificent structure erected by Mr. Styles; the two wings, forming the chapel and offices, connected with it by a colonnade of the Tuscan order, having been taken down, and the materials sold by Mr.

T. H. Shepherd del.t

MOOR PARK,

THE SEAT OF ROBERT WILLIAMS, ESQ.

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Rouse. In this state it constitutes one of the most elegant residences in the county. The principal, or south front, is adorned with a grand portico, supported by four columns of the Corinthian order, forty-seven feet in height; and pilasters support the entablature, which is continued round the house, and surmounted with a balustrade.

The air of grandeur which pervades the interior justifies the expectations raised by the external appearance of this mansion. The hall, of spacious proportions, and the principal staircase, are painted with various subjects from Ovid; and the cases of the doors opening into the former are of marble. The ceiling of the saloon is one of the finest works of Sir James Thornhill, a copy from one by Guido, for which the painter obtained by a legal process the sum of £3500. The ball-room, or long drawing-room, was fitted up in a most superb style by Sir Laurence Dundas, at an expense of £10,000. The apartments contain a collection of pictures, some of which are of great value.

The views from the south front are limited, but the north commands a prospect of great extent over a fertile vale, watered by the little rivers Gade and Coln, and studded with mansions, villas, farm-houses, and villages, together with the towns of Watford and Rickmansworth. This delightful view was obtained in 1725 by Mr. Styles, who lowered a hill for the purpose, at the expense of £5000; a circumstance for which he incurred the satire of Pope in these lines:

> Or cut wide woods through mountains to the plain,
> You 'll wish your hill or shelter'd seat again:

to which he attaches an explanatory note to this effect: "This was done in Hertfordshire by a wealthy citizen at the expense of above £5000, by which means (merely to overlook a dead plain) he let in the north wind upon his house and parterre, which were before adorned and defended by beautiful woods."

The park, through which the Grand Junction Canal passes, is about four miles in circuit, finely diversified, and well-wooded with almost every kind of timber. The kitchen-garden is celebrated for a particular variety of apricot, called the Moor Park, which was originally planted here by Lord Anson.

ROCKBEAR-HOUSE,

DEVONSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF THOMAS PORTER, ESQ.

This mansion is situated in one of the most fertile parts of the county, about eight miles from Honiton, and the same distance from Exeter, and derives its name from the parish in which it stands. Owing to the great improvements which have taken place in late years, most of the cross-roads in this county have been rendered less hilly; and that leading from Honiton to Sidmouth is now one of the most pleasant, especially as it presents an endless variety of beautiful foliage and some picturesque cottages. The approach to this mansion is through an elegant lodge, built of stone; and the carriage-road is sheltered by a beautiful avenue of trees.

Since this estate has become the property of Mr. Porter, many improvements have taken place; and

ROCKBEAR HOUSE,

SEAT OF THOS PORTER ESQ.

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I. Hewetson del.t

THE GRANGE,

THE SEAT OF ALEXANDER BARING, ESQ. M.P.

if Rockbear-House cannot boast a superfluity of architectural ornament, yet its elegant simplicity produces a very pleasing effect. In the completion of this mansion considerable expense must have been incurred, as the workmanship is of a very superior kind; and the apartments are not only extremely commodious, but most exquisitely finished. The many advantages which the neighbourhood possesses, and its proximity to one of the most delightful watering-places on the south coast (Sidmouth), render this estate every way desirable.

THE GRANGE,

HAMPSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF ALEXANDER BARING, ESQ. M. P.

This magnificent structure was commenced, and the centre or principal part built, by Inigo Jones; but the classical alterations and additions, by Mr. Wilkins, on the model of the Parthenon, leave scarcely any trace of the original design. It is highly creditable to the taste and judgment of the architect, that he could thus introduce these improvements without razing the original building, which must always attract some degree of curiosity as the work of Inigo Jones.

On the south side stands a superb portico, the elegant proportions of which are those of the same Grecian model. It consists of eight fluted columns, without bases, resting upon a grand flight of steps, and supporting an entablature, which is continued round the entire building. Upon the metopes, between the triglyphs, are sculptured wreaths of laurel.

These are the only enrichments of the frieze, which is surmounted by a bold cornice.

The mansion, on the south and western sides, is fronted by a broad and handsome terrace, ascended in the centre of each front by a flight of steps of considerable width. At the angles of the terrace are piers, the projection of which breaks the uniformity of surface on this noble basement. The north wing, designed and built by S. P. Cockerell, in a corresponding style of architecture, is upon an extensive scale, containing a grand suite of apartments, connected with a beautiful conservatory, richly supplied with a great variety of exotics. The present possessor is constantly adding to the improvements of the house and demesne.

The view from the portico is beautiful beyond description, including a continued variety of wood, water, open grounds, and improvements, heightened by the spire of the village church rising amidst the foliage.

The grounds of the demesne on all sides are disposed in accordance with the superb taste manifested in the building. Retired walks and open lawns are judiciously arranged as either are suited to the scene. The formation of a large sheet of water, with a rural bridge and castellated building, add greatly to the picturesque effect of this delightful scenery.

Grange-Park is six miles from Winchester. It was anciently the seat of the Henley family. After the decease of the last Earl of Northington in 1786, the whole estate was sold by his sisters and coheiresses to H. Drummond, Esq. Shortly afterwards it became the property of Alexander Baring, Esq. representative in Parliament for the borough of Taunton, and brother to Sir Thomas Baring, Bart.

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J. Gendall del.t

RICHING'S LODGE,

SEAT OF THE RIGHT HONBLE JOHN SULIVAN.

RICHINGS LODGE,

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF THE RIGHT HON. JOHN SULIVAN.

THIS delightful residence is situated in the parish of Iver, and but a short distance from Colnbrook, on the Bath road. An old but convenient house formerly stood on the lower part of the ground, which must have been of some consequence, from the number of noble proprietors who have held it. Among others we find, that, in 1739, it was purchased of Lord Bathurst by the Earl of Hertford, afterwards Duke of Somerset: on the death of the duke, the duchess made it her constant residence. Among the poets of the day who dwelt on its beauties, may be reckoned Shenstone. His poem of *Rural Elegance*, dedicated to the duchess, is supposed to owe its origin to this place. After the death of the duchess, which happened here in July 1754, it became the property of Lady Elizabeth Seymour, daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Somerset; who, after the death of her brother, conveyed it by marriage (which took place at this house in 1740,) to Sir Hugh Smithson, Bart. afterwards Duke of Northumberland. It was next sold to the Countess of Charleville, of whom it was purchased by the present proprietor. This gentleman completely repaired the old house, which, by some accident, took fire, and was entirely destroyed. It was succeeded by the present elegant mansion.

The annexed View is from the Lawn of the Entrance-Front. The portico is in good taste; and the

offices form, with the wings, a semicircle that has a pleasing effect. The garden front is circular, which adds considerably to the effect of the principal apartments. The grounds are completely in keeping with the modern taste of ornamental landscape, enlivened by water winding through the richest verdure, and falling into the Colne, to the west of Colnbrook.

The mention made by Lady Hertford, in her "Letters," of a chapel dedicated to St. Leonard, which stood about one hundred yards from the site of the present dairy, the abbey-walk which she describes, and the yet existing denomination of Pilgrim given to the lane and to a spring on the verge of the grounds, with that of Holy Hill assigned to fields adjoining, would seem to indicate that this was formerly a consecrated spot.

ASHRIDGE,

HERTFORDSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF THE COUNTESS OF BRIDGEWATER.

The present rage for the Gothic style has excited much competition among architects; and it is a lamentable fact, that many of their works will only serve to demonstrate the superiority of talent possessed by Sir Jeffry Wyatville, by whom this magnificent mansion has been but lately completed.

Ashridge is situated in a beautiful part of the county of Hertford, and, being embellished with many choice works of art, possesses strong attractions. The chapel, which adjoins the mansion, is also extremely beautiful, and has been ably engraved by Mr. W. Wool-

ASHBRIDGE HOUSE,
SEAT OF THE COUNTESS OF BRIDGEWATER.

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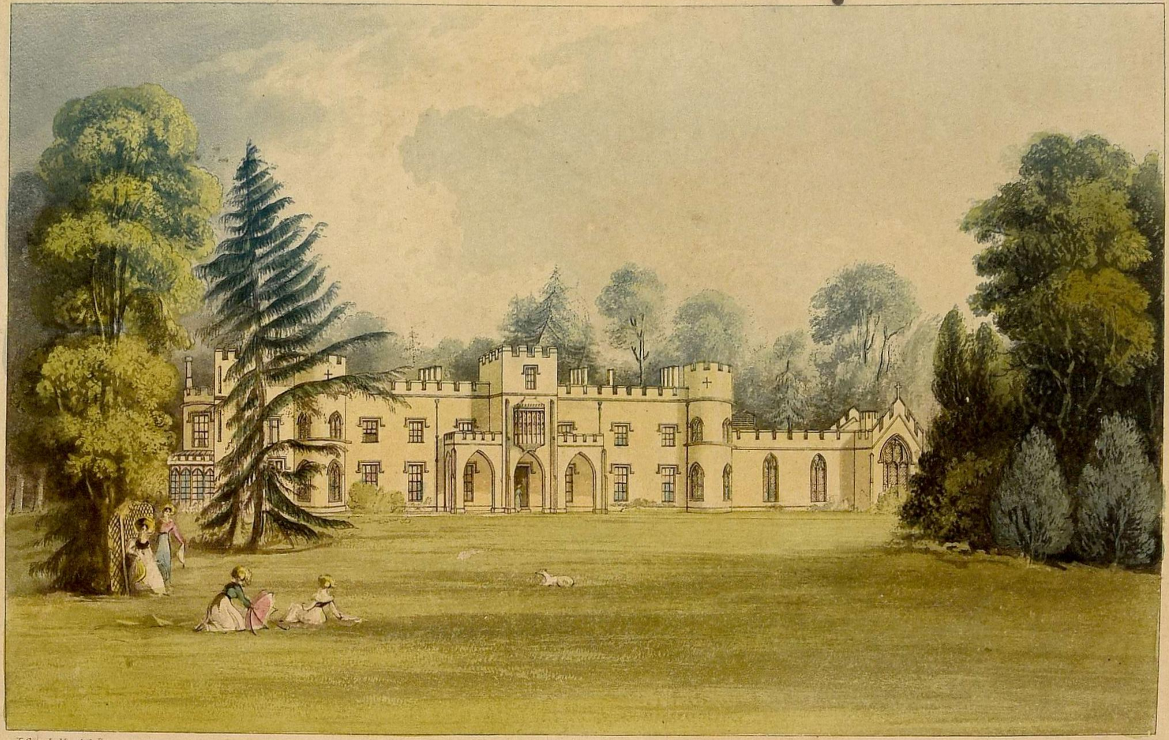

J. Gendall del.

SOPHIA LODGE,

THE SEAT OF Wm DAWSON, ESQ.

(View from the Lawn.)

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noth, as a private plate, to embellish a work printed solely for the friends of the nobleman by whom it was erected. His lordship, who was a liberal promoter of the arts in general, scarcely survived the completion of this splendid mansion.

SOPHIA LODGE,

BERKSHIRE,

THE RESIDENCE OF WILLIAM DAWSON, ESQ.

This truly enchanting spot, in the parish of Clewer, embraces a portion of St. Leonard's Hill, bounded by the road from Windsor through the Forest and Clewer Green. A farm formerly occupied the spot before the old mansion was built by Lillie Agascomb, Esq. who, after a time, sold it to the Duke of Gloucester, when it became an appendage to Gloucester Lodge, and received the name of Sophia Lodge or Farm. It afterwards became the property of J. Birch, Esq. It must at one time have been the residence of the Countess of Hertford, afterwards Duchess of Somerset, from being noticed in her published letters. On quitting it, her ladyship observes, "I staid in Windsor Forest till the 13th November, and left it more unwillingly than usual, from the circumstance of our returning there no more. The house I own was a very bad one, but there was something in the retiredness of its situation, and the beautiful prospect from it, that I would not, to please myself, have exchanged it for the finest apartment in Versailles or Hampton-Court; but it is so much out of repair, that we could not live there any longer,

without buying and in a manner rebuilding it, which, for a very substantial reason that you may guess, was impracticable."

It is now the property of William Dawson, Esq. of Craven in Yorkshire. Every thing has been done by this gentleman that the Duchess of Somerset felt it required, and that nature left to be accomplished by the hand of man. The talent of Wyatt has been called in, and the house is now a beautiful specimen of his fine taste in the Gothic style; no expense has been spared to render it complete in every respect.

The First Plate is a View of the Principal Front, shewing the entire extent of the building, with its handsome portico and elegant oriel window.

The Hall of Entrance and Ante-Room is chaste, with a degree of grandeur rarely to be expected in a mansion of moderate dimensions: still it will be found that the Dining-Room, with its rich ceiling, and the Drawing-Room and Sitting-Room, by no means fall short of the impression made by the Hall of Entrance, which mainly results from the good taste in the fitting-up and in the furniture, which is observable throughout. One of the circular projections forms a small room of singular beauty, which is connected with the Sitting-Room, and fitted up as a *boudoir*. The Drawing-Room is thirty-six feet by thirty, and finished in compartments embellished with rich landscapes. From a rich ceiling is suspended a beautiful chandelier, which gives a fine finish to this delightful room. Immediately connected with and embracing the entire range of this room, of which indeed it may be said to form one

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J. Gendall del.[t]

SOPHIA LODGE,

THE SEAT OF WM. DAWSON, ESQ.

ACKERMANNS REPOSITORY of ARTS &c.

side, is the Conservatory, as shewn in the Second View of this elegant seat: it is filled with costly plants, that delight the eye and perfume the air.

Few mansions have a more agreeable approach than the entrance to Sophia Lodge, through a variety of trees of the finest growth. The pine, the beech, and particularly the chesnut-trees, that form a noble avenue, here attain extraordinary magnitude. The mansion rises so completely from the side of the hill, that a large portion in the rear has been removed to gain space. The consequence is a very bold and picturesque acclivity, which is covered with beautiful wood, that screens the house completely from the easterly winds, and gives a romantic appearance with its overhanging woods to the Gothic fabric beneath.

The grounds are encompassed by a zone of trees of the finest growth. Windsor Forest to the right may be said to belong to it, so completely is it identified with the grounds. A fine sheet of water graces the lower part of the lawn, near which is a rustic summer-house overgrown with ivy; from which the walk continues through the plantation up to the house, at which at intervals it commands many a pleasing peep.

The extensive walled kitchen-gardens are situated on the high ground behind the house: beside which runs a fine terrace-walk, that commands a beautiful and extensive view of the country, stretching away across the luxuriant vale to the well-wooded and highly cultivated hills of Buckinghamshire.

PIERCEFIELD,

MONMOUTHSHIRE,

THE SEAT OF NATHANIEL WELLS, ESQ.

Piercefield is one of the most elegant modern structures erected during the last century, and, in respect to situation, it possesses advantages superior to some of the most celebrated residences of the nobility. The house stands in the centre of a park of more than six hundred acres, embellished with the finest plantations imaginable, and commands most pleasing views of the river Severn, and the distant hills of Gloucestershire and Somersetshire.

This seat has passed through various hands, and among others of a man whose name will be ever revered (the late Valentine Morris, Esq.), and who experienced the greatest vicissitudes of fortune, and died, after seven years' confinement, in the King's Bench, in a state of comparative indigence. The present edifice was erected by Sir Mark Wood, Bart. formerly chief engineer in Bengal, and consists of a centre and two wings, built of Bath freestone, with an elegant portico. The centre part of the building contains three stories, with a noble saloon paved with marble, and an elegant winding staircase, by Bonomi; the apartments are fitted up in the most costly manner, the walls being embellished with some fine designs in relievo. There is also some fine tapestry from the Gobelin manufactory in Paris, and which is said to have belonged to the unfortunate Louis XVI. The wings, which contain the library and billiard-room, are built in the Gre-

F. W. Stockdale del.t

PIERCEFIELD,
SEAT OF NATHANIEL WELLS, ESQ.

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cian style, and have a very elegant appearance; indeed, the character of the whole building, in point of chasteness of design, is rarely to be surpassed. The wings are highly ornamented, and on the summit of them are six figures from the heathen mythology.

In describing the scenery of Piercefield, a celebrated modern writer says, "The walks are carried through a thick mantle of forests, with occasional openings, which seem not the result of art or design, but the effect of chance or nature; and seats are placed where the spectator may repose and view at leisure the scenery above, beneath, and around."—"This bowery walk," he further says, "is consonant to the genius of Piercefield; the screen of wood prevents the uniformity of a bird's-eye view, and the imperceptible bend of the amphitheatre conveys the spectator from one part of this fairy region to another, without discovering the gradations. Hence the Wye is sometimes concealed or half obscured by overhanging foliage; at others, wholly expanding to view, it is seen sweeping beneath in a broad and circuitous channel: hence, at one place, the Severn spreads in the midst of a boundless expanse of country, and on the opposite side the Wye; at another, both rivers appear on the same side, and the Severn seems supported on the level summit of the cliffs which form the banks of the Wye. Hence the same objects present themselves in different aspects, and with varied accompaniments; hence the magic transition from the impervious gloom of the forest to open groves, from meadows and lawns to rocks and precipices, and from the mild beauties

of English landscape to the wildness of Alpine scenery."

The walks extend nearly three miles, but the most remarkable features which they present to notice are the Alcove, the Grotto, the Double View, the Giant's Cave, and the Lover's Leap. To particularize their several beauties and attractions would far exceed the limits of this work, neither is it necessary, as they are to be found in most of the topographical accounts of Monmouthshire and the scenery of the Wye.

Strangers are allowed admittance, every Tuesday and Friday, to the grounds of Piercefield, the only approach to which is by the lodge, entering the park from the road leading to the village of St. Arvans, about a mile from Chepstow.

The lodges and park-wall were also built at the expense of Sir Mark Wood, at a time when provisions were extremely dear, and gave employment to many poor persons, who otherwise would have been subjected to much distress.

A new road has lately been opened, leading by the park-wall under the Wind-Cliff to Tintern Abbey.

THE END.

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